

MEGWAA EZHOWEBAAK LITTLE RIVER CURRENTS

Waawaaskone-Giizis (Flower Moon)
May 2006, Vol. 3 Issue 5



ALSO IN THIS PUBLICATION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
PAGE 4



SUMMER CAMP!
SEE ADS
PP. 9, 14, 27, 32, 35



INTRODUCING
SHARRON DETZ
NEW HR DIRECTOR
P.4



Little River Band of
Ottawa Indians
375 River St.
Manistee, MI 49660



UTILITY PROGRAM AND
STURGEON PROGRAM
RECEIVE HONORS
SEE GRANTS - P. 8



POISON CONTROL CHECK
P. 11

CLEANING UP
MANISTEE LAKE
P. 20

2005 Spring Gathering - "A Time of Healing"

March 25, 2005



*Cedar tree planted to symbolize
Healing in the Community*

SATURDAY MARCH 25, 2006 –
As cars pulled up to the Aki-
Maadiziwin gathering area,
the feelings of having to rush
around and worry about how to
write this story for the 'Currents'

started to melt away.

There were tents put
up to shelter from the
drizzle and wind, there
was a fire burning and
everywhere people were
laughing and talking.
Children were running
around the tent and
calling out to each other,
looked upon by the
caring and smiling faces
of all that were gathered.
The feeling was an
indescribable sense of spring!
Ogema Wilson called us all
to order around 10:30 am and
a solemn procession of the
Warrior Society, orchestrated by
Al Medacco brought forward the
flags that symbolize the Country,
the Nation and the Warriors that
stand to protect them. It was
a notably touching and pride-
filling moment.

Women wore long skirts (some
borrowed from a forward-



*Tribal Member Alice Skrzysinski and Tribal
Council Speaker Steve Parsons at tree planting*

thinking person that realized
that some of us might forget)
and med wore ribbon shirts.
It was cold. The wind slapped
the canvas against the metal
poles, and everyone huddled
together, sharing blankets,
mittens and hats as Ogema
Wilson introduced his friend -

CONTINUED

- SEE 'GATHERING' P. 17
and long-time teacher; Jack



Professional Narcotics K-9

Visits Tribal Council

See story page 16



Ogema Visits Muskegon

Easter Celebration

See story page 31



Shirley Brauker Pottery & Arts

See story page 19



PRSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #195
MANISTEE, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LRBOI ANNUAL SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Saturday May 13, 2006

Little River Casino Resort's Three Fires Convention Center



Schedule:

9 a.m. Registration Begins
10a.m. Information Booths
Noon Potluck Lunch
PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS
1p.m. Meeting begins



Hotel Information:

Little River Casino 231.723.1535

Microtel
231.723.0008

Super 8
231.398.8888

Days Inn
231.723.7385

Little River Casino Resort's
Three Fires Convention Center
2700 Orchard Hwy
Manistee, MI 49660



Introducing....

A Resource for Native American
Housing & Native Owned Business

www.TribalRealtor.com



Get Information on.....

- Tax Agreement Area's
- HUD 184 Loans
- Down Payment Assistance
- Well/Septic Grants
- Native Owned Businesses
- & More

To have your business featured on this website
(for free) please call me at (231) 313-1667



Century 21 Pearson-Cook
Kerri Collier - Realtor
Cell 231-313-1667
1-800-424-9618
Kerri@KerriCollier.com



www.TraverseAgent.com or www.KerriCollier.com

EMPLOYEE PURCHASE PROGRAM LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS



Taking savings
to a higher level.



The Dell Employee Purchase Program is an exclusive discount program brought to you by your company and Dell. Dell EPP gives you all the selections and specials of Dell Home PLUS additional EPP savings. As a new member, you may have questions. So, we've included the answers to some of the most frequently asked questions below. For even more information, call 1-800-895-8133.

FAQs ABOUT EPP

Q: Why is this the best deal on a Dell PC for home?

A: EPP offers you savings not available to the general public.

- Savings of up to 6% on all Dell™ Dimension™ desktop and Inspiron™ notebook systems
- Double those savings (up to a total 12% off) by selecting 3 or 4 years of At-Home service²
- Discounts taken on top of most generally advertised Dell Home Sales prices and promotions
- Exclusive discounts and offers not available to the general public

Systems priced below \$1,000 (including shipping)	Up to \$100	\$101 to \$1,000	\$1,001 and above
Base Discount	2%	4%	6%
Discount with 3- or 4-year At-Home Service ²	4%	8%	12% Best Deal

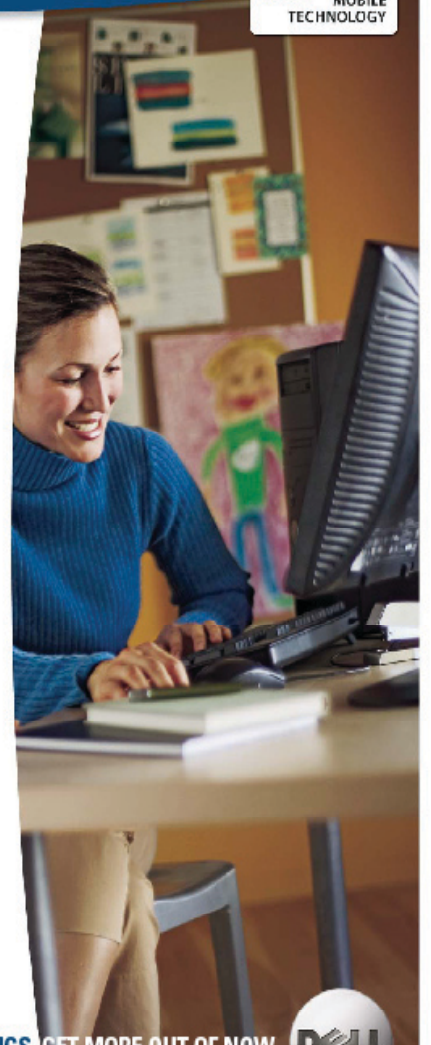
Q: How do I learn more? How do I place my order?

A: Simple.

- Visit our Web site at www.dell.com/lepbuy.
- Or, call us at 1-800-895-8133 and speak to an EPP sales consultant who will be happy to answer your questions, help you configure a system that's best for you, and even take your order.
- Or, visit your company's Premier Pages™ Web site.

**SEE MEMO
ON PAGE 6**

GET MORE SAVINGS. GET MORE OUT OF NOW. **DELL**



CORRECTION -

In the April edition of the currents on page 18, we misspelled Mike Moore's (Chairman of the Board) last name and his wife's name is spelled Marisa with one 's'.

On page 21 Janelle Lyrenmann's last name was also misspelled.

~ Attention ~

Girls and young ladies ages 5-18

The 2006 Miss and Jr. Miss Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Princess applications are now available. The Cultural Preservation Committee encourages all Tribal and descendant girls and young ladies to apply.

Qualifications:

*Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Member or Descendant
Age 5-12 (Jr. Miss) or Age 13-18 (Miss)*

*Have full regalia corresponding to their style of dance
Knowledge of Tribal traditions and history*

*For more information or for an application packet, please call (231) 398-2222
or toll-free at 1-888-723-8288, ext. 2222 or email cpc@lrboi.com*

BALTIC AVENUE

Real Estate Investment
Company



We Buy Houses!
Serving Muskegon County
CALL TODAY!
231-830-0680
A division of
Mega Trend Construction

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

WILLOWS RESTAURANT EXPANDING AT LITTLE RIVER CASINO RESORT



(Manistee, MI) – Please note that the Heron Restaurant will be closed effective April 17th, 2006.
The last day of service to patrons and guests will be Sunday, April 16th from 4:00-10:00 pm.

Due to the overwhelming response from our guests the Heron Restaurant will be closed temporarily in order to accommodate a much needed expansion of The Willows restaurant by combining the space from both. The expansion will help reduce long lines and waiting times currently experienced by our guests who dine in The Willows. This expansion will allow guests to have a more enjoyable experience when visiting the resort by giving them more time to enjoy all of the other amenities we offer with the time gained through faster service and smaller lines.

Once the space of both the Heron and the Willows has been combined, you can all look forward to an enhanced program in The Willows restaurant including a significant increase in seating, enhanced menu items, additional buffet capacity, a VIP seating area with butler service and some favorite menu items from The Heron menu.

Future plans include the reintroduction of a fine dining restaurant once Phase II and all of its planned modifications to the resort are complete.



CONTACT: Tiana R. Burgeson: (231) 398-3822

April 2006 Little River Currents - Contents

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS	PP. 2-3	NATURAL RESOURCES	PP. 20-21
TRIBAL NEWS		CASINO NEWS	PP. 22-23
- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	P. 4	COMMODITY DEPARTMENT	P. 24
- CASINO CALENDAR	P. 5	COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES	P. 25
- LRBOI CONTACT NUMBERS	P. 5	MEMBERS' ASSISTANCE	P. 26
- DELL COMPUTER DISCOUNT	P. 6	CHS & EHAP	P. 27
- COMPUTER DONATION	P. 6	EDUCATION	P. 28
TAX OFFICE	P. 7	HISTORICAL PRESERVATION	PP. 29
LANGUAGE CAMP	P. 9	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	P. 30
FAMILY SERVICES	PP. 10-13	LRBOI NEWS	PP. 32-33-35
HEALTH	P. 14	SUBMISSIONS	P. 34
CULTURE	P. 15		



LRBOI Toll Free Job Hotline 1-866-556-5660

For more information, contact :
Alyce Giltz in Human Resources @ 1-888-723-8288

Introducing Sharron M. Detz LRBOI Human Resource Director



The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Government is happy to introduce the new Human Resource Director, Sharron Detz. Sharron is a Member of the Little River Band. She started her life in Muskegon, MI. Some of her fondest childhood memories are of staying with her grandparents, aunts and uncles in the Custer area for the summer.

Sharron grew up proud to be Native American. Even though she has been living and working in Grand Rapids for the past thirty years, and she still thinks of Muskegon as home.

Mrs. Detz has always worked within the Native Community. She was the Director of the Native American Ministry for the Diocese of Grand Rapids (which covers 11 counties) where she relied on the Native Community to let her know what issues needed focus.

She was the first Native American to run the Restoration Justice

Program. Sharron is proud of all the positive cultural restoration she has been a part of through these responsibilities in the community. Through her positions, she was able to obtain grants to help promote language classes, traditional artwork workshops, ceremonies, events and more. Every year, she helped organize a Native Kateri Conference for Families.

She is proud of having been an instrumental force behind the reinstatement of the Blessed Kateri Center in Elbridge to the Native Community it was originally built for – the Grand River People.

Sharron feels that her greatest professional achievement is to have, through her work in Restorative Justice, implemented the first Native American Pastoral Plan for Native People in the United States.

Her experience also includes independent contracting for the

Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce (GRCC), Aquinas College and Kennedy Management Resources in Grand Rapids.

She also sits as secretary of the Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation Repatriation Alliance (serves 14 recognized Tribes) for the past six years.

Sharron and her husband Edward have been married for 29 years. They have two daughters; Anna May, who is an Anthropology student at Grand Valley; and Liz, who is studying Criminal Justice at Grand Rapids Community College. They also have a two-year-old grandson, Alex Edward.

Sharron feels very strongly that her spirituality is what guides her through her life.

“As Native People, we walk in two worlds, and as Human Resource Director I have to hold fast to the balance between both worlds. What makes me most happy is to be here to serve the

Tribe. I am thrilled to have this opportunity to step into the role of HR Director. LRBOI is a tremendous asset and resource for this community. Our ability to thrive is dependant upon many things, including adequate resources for our Membership to maintain high-caliber employees, current technology and appropriate facilities for our people.”

The challenge of becoming LRBOI’s new Human Resource Director appealed to her and she quickly stepped into the shoes – running shoes – that needed to be filled.

She brings strong organizational, business, financial, planning and rehabilitation skills to LRBOI.

“I so enjoy the challenge of this position and I look forward to coming to work every day!” says Sharron of her new position.

Written by: Emily Drouin

Letters to the Editor...

Editorial

Dear Editor,

I have some concerns about an item that will come before Michigan voters this November. It is the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative (or MCRI, for short).

As a native American and a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, I fear that this initiative will produce the same results as have occurred in California under Proposition #209. According to an article entitled Gender Impact of the California Civil Rights Initiative found at the url: www.umich.edu/CEW, the number of women hired at the University of California at Davis dropped by 39% after the California amendment passed. A look at the website www.oneunitedmichigan.org gives more dire statistics; African American and Hispanic student enrollments dropped from 1607 to 625 in 1998, after the amendment passed.

Things such as breast cancer screening and prostate cancer screening will be affected. Basically all state funding for programs that are “special” for any protected group will disappear. No more affirmative action programs with state funding will be allowed. how long will it be before the federal programs, such as Women, Infants and Children (WIC) programs will disappear.

Contracts to special groups would also be affected.

Aren’t we starting up a construction firm to handle building projects in the state.

It seems to me that we should educate ourselves about the consequences of this initiative and do some campaigning ourselves.

Check out the websites and start educating your neighbors.

Thanks,









Nancy Rae Morehead, #3907

Letters to the editor will be printed provided that they follow the guidelines published in the February issue of the ‘Currents’.

Please note that any letter sent without a return address and a phone number where you can be reached will not be printed in the ‘Little River Currents’.

The Little River Currents will make every effort to find the right people to respond to your questions and comments and we will print these responses in the subsequent paper.

Thank you for your letters, we greatly appreciate them!

May						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Polka Monday Winkowski Family <i>Poker Tournament</i>	2 <i>Poker Tournament</i>	3  <i>Women's Fest 2006</i>	4 <i>Women's Fest 2006</i>	5 Oro Latino  <i>Cinco de Mayo</i> <i>Women's Fest 2006</i>	6 <i>Women's Fest 2006</i>
7 <i>Women's Fest 2006</i>	8 Polka Monday Ken Hawkins <i>Poker Tournament</i>	9 <i>Poker Tournament</i>	10 	11	12 Larise Kirk <i>(Sp-La Country/Variety)</i>	13 Larise Kirk <i>(Sp-La Country/Variety)</i>
14 <i>Mother's Day</i> 	15 Polka Monday Arlene Davis <i>Poker Tournament</i>	16 <i>Poker Tournament</i>	17 	18	19 Destiny 9p-1a <i>(Dance Hits/Variety)</i>	20 Destiny 9p-1a <i>(Dance Hits/Variety)</i>
21	22 Polka Monday Good Times Orch. <i>Poker Tournament</i>	23 <i>Poker Tournament</i>	24 	25	26 Risque 9p-1a <i>(Dance Hits)</i>	27 Risque 9p-1a <i>(Dance Hits)</i>
28 Risque 9p-1a <i>(Dance Hits)</i>	29 Polka Monday Rodney Beyer/Pats <i>Poker Tournament</i> <i>Memorial Day</i> 	30 <i>Poker Tournament</i>	31 			

2006

Moon Bear Pottery
& Indian Arts
Coldwater, MI

The piece seen here is called “Red Wing Blackbird” It has sweet grass and sinew woven into its top rim, and its sides are decorated with carved cattails and the Red Wing Blackbird. It can be used as a vase, or has a hole in the back to allow it to be hung on a wall. It is about 9 inches tall.

Shirley M. Brauker owns *Moon Bear Pottery and Indian Arts* in Coldwater, Michigan.
She can be reached at: moonbear@cbpu.com
You can also visit her web site:

<http://www.cbpu.com/moonbear>



The *Currents* is now offering
FREE ADVERTISEMENT

To all Tribal Members who Own a Business

(Up to 1/4 page in size)

Send your ads to: edrouin@lrboi.com

or by mail to: 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660

Care of Public Information.

LRBOI Direct Contact Numbers

Ogema’s Office 231-398-6824
Tribal Council 231-398-6845
 Kimberly Alexander 231-398-6835
 Shannon Crampton 231-398-6849
 Norbert Kelsey 231-398-6828
 Don Koon 231-398-6831
 Steve Parsons - Speaker 231-398-6830
 Elaine Porter 231-398-6833
 Janine Sam - Recorder 231-398-6834
 Israel Stone 231-398-6807

Accounting 231-398-6878
Be-Da-Bin 888-382-8299
Casino – Toll Free 866-466-7338
Clinic Operations 888-382-8299
Contract Health/EHAP 888-382-8299
Community Health Representatives (CHR) 888-382-8299

Economic Development 231-398-6806
Election Board 231-398-6852
Education 231-398-6724
Elders 231-398-6709
Enrollment 231-398-6713
Family Services 231-398-6726



Food Commodities 231-398-6715

Grants 231-398-6870
Gaming Commission 231-398-2269
Health Toll Free 888-382-8299
Historic Preservation 231-398-2221
Housing 888-723-8288
Human Resources 231-398-6704
Language Hotline 877-789-0993
Legal 231-398-6822
Members’ Legal Assistance Program 231-398-6820
Little River Casino Resort 888-568-2244
Member’s Assistance 231-398-6731
Natural Resources 231-723-1594
Peacekeeping 231-398-2239
Planning 231-398-6810
Prosecuting Attorney 231-398-2242
Public Information 231-398-6840
Public Safety 231-398-2225
Reception 888-723-8288
Tax Department 231-398-6874
Toll Free 888-723-8288
Tribal Court 231-398-3406
Utilities 231-723-2309
Warriors Society 231-398-6720

Dell Computers Member & Employee Purchase Program



The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and Dell have teamed up to offer you the benefit of participating in the Dell Employee Purchase Program. This is great news for you as an employee, since Dell's Employee Purchase Program offers award-winning technology, service and support, and much more.

With the Employee Purchase Program, you can receive:

- Up to a 12% discount on Dimension™ and Inspiron™ Home & Home Office products
- Discounted 3-5 business day ground shipping
- Dell's award-winning 24-hour online and telephone technical support
- Frequent special values and promotions in addition to your standard discounts

Placing an order:

Member ID: CS51980479

(Write down this number. You will need it when placing your order.)

Internet - Choose your system, add system upgrades, and place an order online via Dell's Secure Employee Purchase Store.

To order or view systems, Click Here. or select "click here for systems" in the top-hand menu @ www.dell.com/eppbuy.

Telephone - Dell's sales representatives can help you place your order over the phone at 1-800-695-8133.

Proof of employment may be required (i.e. member ID#). Products and prices may change without notice. Payment options include major credit cards (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover Card). Dell Purchase Plan financing is also available to qualified individuals through Dell Financial Services, LP.

Customer Service and Telephone Tech-

nical Support is available through Dell's toll-free technical service and customer support line 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call 1-800-695-8133.

EPP FAQ's:

How do I get the savings?

When placing an order through dell.com/eppbuy or 1-800-695-8133 use the Member ID (Paragraph 3) to confirm your eligibility:

Does this discount apply to business products?

The goal of this program is to ensure that when you choose Dell for your consumer needs you receive the best deal available from our consumer lineup. For this reason the Employee Purchase Program discount applies only to Dell's personal line of computers (Dimension and Inspiron) mirroring the prices and promotions found under the Home & Home Office portion of Dell's main website. For quotes and/or pricing on any products found within the business portions of Dell's website please contact your IT department or the inside sales representative that handles your business needs.

Does this discount apply to software and peripheral products (S&P)?

Although the EPP Discount does not apply directly to software and peripherals (Printers, DJ's, Televisions, Monitors, etc), we will always match the pricing structure and promotions associated with S&P found at the Home & Home Office portion of www.dell.com.

Joan Burkhart

MIS Department

Wednesday, March 22, 2006 12:52 PM

ALL ORDERS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE BY DELL. Offer subject to your company's continuing participation in the Dell EPP program. Pricing, specifications, availability, and terms of offers may change without notice. Taxes, fees and shipping charges are extra, and vary. U.S. Dell EPP new purchases only. Dell cannot be responsible for pricing or other errors, and reserves the right to cancel orders arising from such errors.

1 At-home service provided via third-party contract with customer. Technician will be dispatched if necessary following phone-based troubleshooting. Availability varies. Other conditions apply.

2 Dell Preferred Account: Offered by CIT Bank to qualified U.S. residents with approved credit. Taxes, fees and shipping charges are extra and vary.

3 Some Home and Home Office special offers and coupons may be excluded.

Dell, Dimension, Inspiron, Premier Pages and the Dell Logo are trademarks of Dell Inc. Other trademarks and trade names may be used in this document to refer to either the entities claiming the marks and names or their products. Dell disclaims proprietary interest in the marks and names of others. © Copyright 2004 Dell Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner whatsoever without the express written permission of Dell Inc is strictly forbidden. For more information contact Dell.



Computer Donations at LRBOI

Joe and Betty Koon (far left and center of photo) found themselves on the receiving end of a computer donation program this year.

Council Member Norbert Kelsey (far right of photo) is at the head of an initiative that hopes to take LRBOI's used Government computers and donate them to Tribal Elders.

These computers will enable some Tribal Members to access the internet, type documents, file information, do taxes, edit pictures, and do any number of other tasks that are now made easier through the use of technology.

Joe and Betty Koon say that they are hoping to use the Internet, but that having a computer will help them be more active in the Local and Tribal Communities.

Kudos to Councilor Kelsey for the great idea!



Tax Office - Questions & Answers

If you have tax questions that you would like to have answered in upcoming editions of Little River Currents, please send them to: Barb Czarnecki, Tax Officer, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660 or email them to: bczarnecki@lrboi.com.

The following questions were e-mailed to me following a brief discussion on Resident Tribal Member exemptions.

Question 1:

Are we tax exempt on our utilities? Gas? Electricity? Water/sewage (city of Manistee)?

Answer:

Section III(A)(7) of the tax agreement provides an exemption for sales of electricity, natural or artificial gas, home heating fuels, and telecommunications and internet services if the product is delivered to a Resident Tribal Member's principal residence located within the Agreement Area. Internet services are not currently subject to Michigan sales or use tax for any user. Water/sewage charges are exempt from Michigan sales and use tax by statute.

Question 2:

If we are tax exempt on our utilities, how do I know that is happening?

Answer: Look at your heat, electricity, phone and cell phone bills to see if Michigan sales or use tax is being charged.

Question 3: If it is not happening, how do I get this going?

Answer: If you see a Michigan sales or use tax charge on your bill, bring a copy of the bill to the Tax Office. I will try to determine why it is still being taxed and try to take steps to get the exemption. This process is not always successful as some utility providers are unwilling to take the steps necessary to verify their Tribal customer's exempt status. In some cases, your only recourse may be to change providers. Call the Tax Office for a list of companies that are cooperating with the provisions of the State/Tribal tax agreement.

Question 4: What about all this time that has gone by, am I reimbursed for any taxes already paid?

Answer: Generally, the sales or use tax collected has already been remitted to the State of Michigan by the utility company and they will tell you to contact the State of Michigan to ask for a refund. The State of Michigan will not refund it. Some resident Tribal members have been successful in getting a credit on their account when they can prove that considerable effort has been made to claim the tax exemption and the utility company did not comply.



11th Annual Walk for Sobriety



The 11th Annual Native American Walk for Sobriety will be held on Saturday, June 10th 2006, at 8:00 AM, at the Sixth Street Bridge Park, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Following a brief ceremony with local speakers, participants will start the 2.5 mile walk along Monroe Ave., and proceed down to the Tree Fires Pow-Wow Grounds at Riverside Park. Prizes will be awarded to walkers. Contact Liz IsHak at Native American Community Services for more detailed information at (616) 458-4078 ext. 105

INFORMATION ON THE GUEST SPEAKERS PAGE 32



CARING FOSTER FAMILIES

CHILDREN NEED OUR HELP.

YOU CAN EMPOWER TRIBAL FAMILIES TO REGAIN SOME PRIDE AND CONFIDENCE.
KINSHIP AND FOSTER CARE CAN HELP A CHILD BECOME A HEALTHY ADULT.

WE NEED CARING PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO EXTEND A HELPING HAND.
HELP US GUIDE A CHILD BACK TO THE TRADITIONS OF OUR PEOPLE; SHARING, CARING AND LOVE.

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO HELP

CONTACT INDIAN CHILD WELFARE
1-231-398-6726

Utilities and Sturgeon Programs Receive Honors

Just a few weeks ago I had the pleasure of letting lead staff, the Ogema and Council know that two of our departments/programs were nominated to apply for the Honoring Nations Grant Program. The Honoring Nations Grant is part of the Harvard Project. The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development was founded by Harvard University. For FY2006 our Utilities Department and the Sturgeon (Nme) Program applied for the grant. We received word yesterday that BOTH programs made the semi-finals!!!!!! Out of 86 applications, 32 were selected to go on to the next round....I was informed this morning that it is VERY rare to have two programs from the same nation make the semi-finals..

The next step is for both programs to provide a detailed description of their work focusing on Effectiveness, Significance to Sovereignty, Cultural Relevance, Transferability and Sustainability. This information is due on April 7th. Then, in mid-May, the Honoring Nations Board of Governors will choose up to 16

programs to receive a site visit. The site visits would take place during the summer months. Then in early October, those 16 selected projects will travel to Sacramento, California for the final round evaluation. This final round is held in conjunction with the National Congress of American Indians Conference. The finalists will have to make a 10 minute presentation. The board will then deliberate and select High Honors and Honors. High Honors will receive \$10,000 and Honors will receive \$2,000. This money is to be used to spread word across Indian Country of the success of the program so that other nations can benefit from what we have done.

This is so very exciting and I am proud to be a part of it. I look forward to keeping you all posted as the process moves along.

Melissa Waitner
Grant Writer

Congrats to the Utilities Department (Gary Lewis, Rod Matthews, Andrew Patricio and Mike Ceplina) and to Marty Holtgren and all those that assisted with the Nme Program....

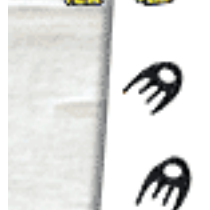
*From: Jackie Old Coyote
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2006
Subject: Honoring Nations 2006 Award Nomination*

Greetings,

Congratulations to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, and in particular, to the Tribal Utilities Program. The Tribal Utilities Program has anonymously been nominated for a 2006 Honoring Nations Award. Honoring Nations is a national awards program that seeks innovative and successful programs throughout Indian Country to provide models for others to learn from. The award comes with a monetary grant, up to \$10,000 and the application is very short and simple. I'm attaching an on-line application and strongly encourage you relay this information to Gary Lewis so they may complete an application by the February 24, 2006 deadline. Attached is the on-line application. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact. If you visit our webpage you will find more information on our program, and you may already know this but, the Migizi Business Camp is a member of our honored family, having been an esteemed finalist in the 2005 Awards. Again, congratulations and I look forward to seeing your application. Best to you, Jackie (See attached file: Honoring Nations 06 ONLINE Application.doc)

*Jackie Old Coyote
Honoring Nations Program Manager*





The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Welcomes you to The 13th Annual Anishinaabe Family Language & Culture Camp

*Celebrating the unity of what our Language & Culture brings us
Bring your Nation Flag & Gift for Giveaway*

No Registration fee
Meals are provided

**Aanii piish
Wenesh pii**

**Manistee Mi
July 28, 29, 30 2006**

Schedule

Friday July 28

8:00 Opening & Breakfast
9:15 Presentations / workshops
10:45 Presentations / workshops
12:00 Lunch
1:15 Presentations / workshops
2:45 Presentations / workshops
4:15 Free time
5:00 Dinner
7:00 Talent show
9:00 Entertainment

Saturday July 29

8:00 Breakfast
9:15 Presentations / workshops
10:45 Presentations / workshops
12:00 Lunch
1:15 Presentations / workshops
2:45 Presentations / workshops
4:15 Free time
5:00 Dinner
7:00 Jiingtamok / pow wow
9:30 Entertainment

Sunday July 30

8:00 Breakfast
9:15 Presentations / workshops
10:45 Presentations / workshops
12:00 Lunch & Giveaway

These presentations and workshops are for all ages and both Anishinaabemowin and English will be used. First come, first serve for the camping area. This gathering will take place at the pow wow grounds in Manistee Mi. located at the corner of M 22 and US 31 S across from the Casino. There are showers on site. If you wish to book a room you have to do it early.

This is the 13 year anniversary of this gathering and we would like everyone to bring their flags from each community and we would like to display the flags on the camp grounds the whole weekend to show unity and support for the language and culture. Also we encourage each family to bring a gift for the giveaway.

**Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians of the Anishinaabe Nation
For more information please call**

Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant at 231-933-4406 or 231-690-3508

Email:

**kennypheasant@charter.net
pheasant9@aol.com**

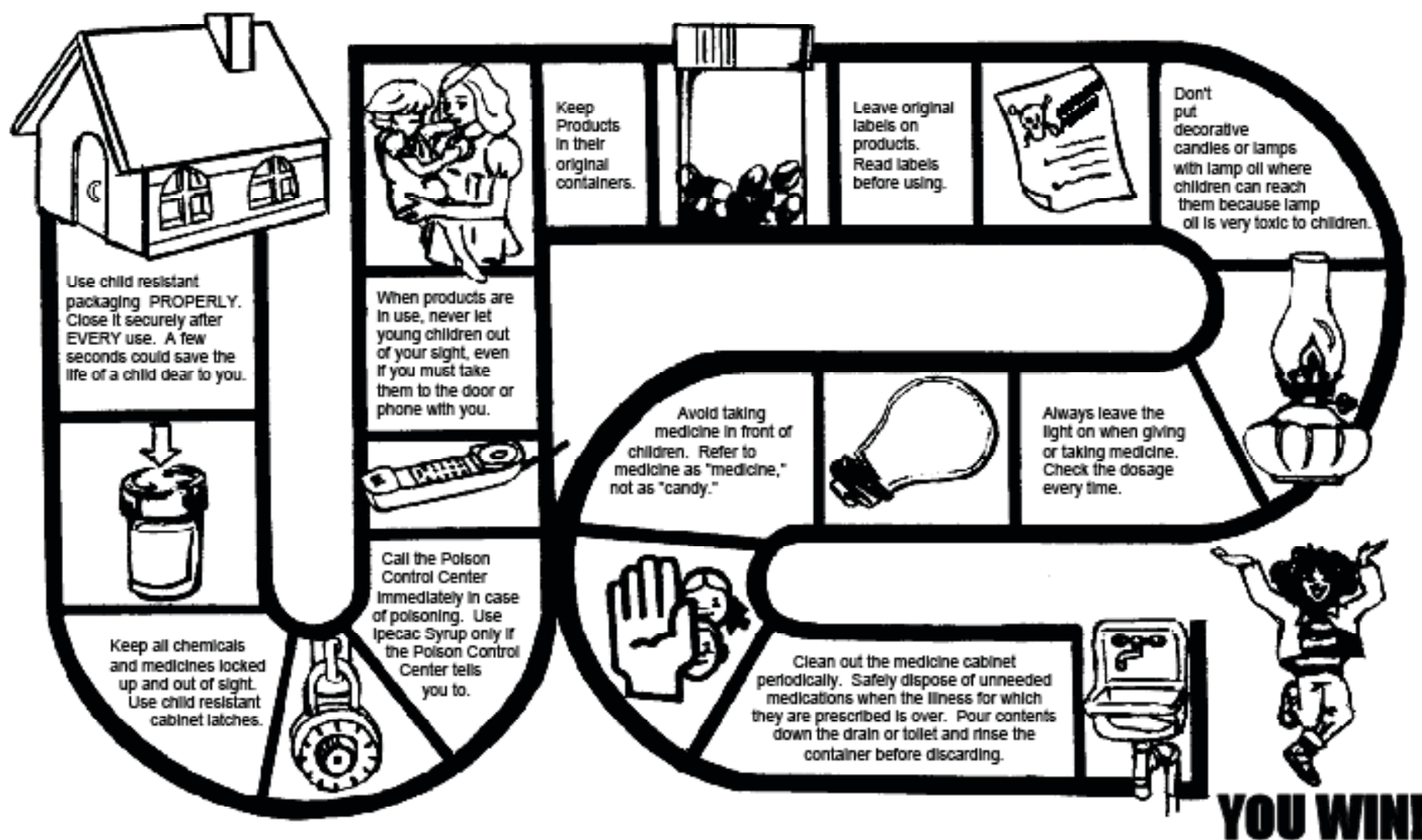
Or Terri Raczkowski at 231-398-2221 Email: traczkowski@lrboi.com

NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK MARCH 19TH - 25TH

CHILDREN ACT FAST...SO DO POISONS

POISON CONTROL GAME

HOW TO WIN: Follow all the instructions on the path and keep children safe.



Created by Great Lakes Marketing, Toledo, Ohio

This page may be reproduced and distributed freely to promote poison prevention.

Located at www.poisonprevention.org

CURRENTS SUBMISSION COUPON

Please fill out the following coupon, cut it out, and mail it to; *Little River Currents* 375 River St., Manistee, MI 49660
Dedications we receive will be published in the next available newspaper issue.

Name: _____ Tribal ID #: _____

Day-time Phone #: _____

_____ Birthday/Belated Birthday
_____ Birth Announcement
_____ Other _____

_____ Anniversary/Wedding
_____ School/College Achievement

Write your dedication text out completely, for example: "Happy 60th Anniversary, Aunt Mary and Uncle Harry, April 1, 2004. From your family and friends." Dedications are printed EXACTLY as printed in the box below.

LET US KNOW HOW WE'RE DOING!

The Little River Currents wants to know what we can do to make this paper your voice.
Please take the time to make comments, suggestions, pat us on the back, or make a complaint.
If we can do better, we will do better.

Community Healing Starts with Each Individual and Our Relationships

Family Services Department

The Family Services Department purpose is to provide members with services designed to assist in the development of self-sufficiency and the improvement of the quality of life while respecting the individual needs of the members.

Our Goals:

- To target the demonstrated needs of Tribal Members to fill areas of service not provided by State and local agencies.
- To maintain and preserve the Native American family by providing appropriate direct services, referral services, and case management services to Tribal Member families.
- To assist members and families in accessing Tribal and local services and programs designed to help gain self-sufficiency.
- To insure the protections under Indian Child Welfare Act for family members having children at risk of removal or in Foster Care.
- To provide advocacy for Tribal families and individuals that may be experiencing issues of family violence.

Departmental Information:

LRBOI Manistee Office-

Location: 1762 US 31 South, Manistee Mi 49660
Phone: 1-888-723-8288 or (231) 398-6726
Hours: Monday thru Friday 8 to 5

LRBOI Muskegon Office-

Location: 1465 Apple Ave, Muskegon Mi 49442
Phone: 231-777-1390
Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday- 9 to 4:30*
* Please call for an appointment as workers may not be available for walk-ins. Appointments can be scheduled at (231) 777-1390 or 1-888-723-8288 ext. 6726

NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

Barriers to Living Violence Free

Like other communities of color, there is tremendous group diversity in the Native American culture. Native American communities have different languages, traditions, and spirituals beliefs. There are 550 federally recognized Native American tribes with 200 distinct languages in the U.S. Further complicating the issue is the continuous migration between reservations and urban areas. A Native American person that is affected by violence within the family may have a different framework based on whether they grew up in an urban setting or on a reservation. There are also political and economical differences that must be considered

The Historical Context of Family Violence

It is important to note, however, that family violence is a relatively new phenomenon in the Native American culture. Violence

in Native American Families can be traced to the introduction of alcohol, Christianity, and the European hierarchical family structure. Women from the Sacred Shawl Women's Society on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota report that while domestic violence existed in pre-reservation society, it was both rare and severely reprobated.

Societal Oppression

Several factors have accompanied the increase in violence and abuse in Native American communities. These include the removal of Native Americans from their ancestral lands, suppressed religious and cultural practices, forced removal of Native American children into foster homes and boarding schools, a disruption of traditional living patterns compounded by the poverty of reservation life, and a 90% reduction of the Native American population from the time of European

contact to the establishment of reservations. These dramatic changes in social, spiritual, and economic structure have drastically undermined traditional ways of life.

The Family

The Native American family is an extended one that includes aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins, as well as adopted relatives. The nuclear family of mother, father, and children is considered a household within the family. Native American families are very close. If violence occurs, the family many times will attempt to take care of the problem. When a Native American person goes outside their family for help, they many times have to deal with their families and the batterer's families, mistrust and dislike of outside help, only compounding their troubles.

Continued on page 13

Warrior Society Memorial Re-Dedication

The LRBOI Warrior Society is planning a re-dedication of the Memorial Monument at the Little River Casino Resort. There will be a dinner and ceremony on Sunday May 28th, 2006.

The program will start at 11am followed by a lunch at the casino's Three Fires Conference Room. For planning purposes, anyone interested in attending is asked to please contact Al Medacco by mail, phone or e-mail at:

2705 Townline Rd, Freesoil, MI 49411
Strongbear71@eSageLink.com
231-464-5052

NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES Barriers to Living Violence Free - Continued from page 12

The Reservation

There are, now, as many Native Americans living in urban areas as there are on reservations, and according to the latest Bureau of Justice Statistics report on "Native Americans and Crime" most Indian women are assaulted by non-Indian perpetrators (both on and off the reservations) so the jurisdictional and legal issues are just as viable as to battering itself.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality is a major issue in small communities. Although the community may view the behavior of the batterer as undesirable, the decision to contact the external legal system or to reveal details of intimate family life is often viewed as disloyal. Tribally provided Domestic/Family Violence Programs strives to help and educate our tribal families to dispel these views and address it as a community issue.

Spirituality

Native American spirituality can be a source of profound support, comfort, and healing for many families affected by violence. According to Karen Artichoker, co-author of *Domestic Violence Is Not Lakota/Dakota Tradition*, it can also serve to keep them in abusive relationships. The idea of connectedness to the earth and to each other is frequently used by the batterer and other family members as a reason for the battered to remain in a violent relationship.

Trust

Many Native American families have a high level of mistrust for white agencies and helpers. This lack of trust is not difficult to understand given the historically oppressive way that white society has treated Native Americans. This mistrust may keep the battered person from reaching out for help. In many cases, when battered Native Americans do

reach out, they are confronted with helpers who are insensitive to their unique life ways and culture.

Little River Band's Family Services Department is committed to serving our community in a healthy and proactive manner, whether dealing with Family Violence or other client needs. If you find yourself in need of services or even if you may simply have a question please feel free to call our office at 1.888.723.8288 and ask for Family Services or you may call direct at 398.6726 to request services.

We service all our clients with confidentiality in a professional and knowledgeable manner. We have a multitude of agencies and resources we utilize to best serve and benefit our tribal families.

COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY WHEEL

This wheel begins to demonstrate the ideal community response to the issue of domestic violence. Community opinion, which strongly states that battering is unacceptable, leads all of our social institutions to expect full accountability from the batterer by applying appropriate consequences. This wheel was developed by Mike Jackson and David Carvin of the Domestic Violence Institute of Michigan (P.O. Box 130107, Ann Arbor, MI 48113, tel: 313.769.6334).



Adapted and edited from the "Power & Control
Quality Wheel" developed by:
Domestic Abuse Intervention Project
252 East Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55802
218.722.4134

Produced and distributed by:



**NATIONAL CENTER
on Domestic and Sexual Violence**
training • consulting • advocacy
4415 Shovel Creek Blvd. • Austin, Texas 78746
512.497.9020 phone and fax • www.ndsv.org

PRESS RELEASE
March 17, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health Survey Paints New Picture of Native American Communities

(Sault Ste. Marie, MI – March 17, 2006)

– Some long-held beliefs surrounding health behaviors of Native American were recently shattered by Upper Peninsula tribal members who participated in a survey conducted by the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (ITCM) and Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Though many health problems still exist among tribal communities, including the fact that 75% of the Native respondents in this survey reported being overweight and 13% reported a doctor's diagnosis of diabetes, other results were promising.

Over 80% of Native American women over the age of 40 reported having had a mammogram within the last two years, which is higher than the Michigan general population. This achievement is largely credited to the fact that a large portion of survey respondents were from the Sault Tribe which offers on-site mammography at its main health center. At the same time, only 51% of Native American men over the age of 40 reported having had prostate screening within the last 2 years. This survey, called the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), was a randomized phone survey focusing on adults' health in Native American households. The BRFSS survey is conducted within the general population every year in all 50 states. The general population BRFSS in Michigan has never surveyed

enough Native Americans to provide any meaningful data. That is why a separate BRFSS survey focusing or focused solely on Native Americans was needed. The ITCM's Steps to a HealthierUS Initiative worked with its member tribes and the Michigan State University Office for Survey Research to create this unique survey.

Nancy Williams, CDC Project Officer, believes this initial BRFSS was exciting because "such data has never existed before, it's scientifically sound, and the test was so welcomed that the ITCM received several letters from tribal members who wished to answer the survey."

Chief Kenneth Meshigaud of the Hannahville Indian Community heralds its success saying, "I'm very pleased with the willingness of our people and their high participation rate. The benefits of this data are far-reaching and integral to future health planning. I'm very pleased that tribal members saw the importance of disclosing their phone numbers. It's comforting to know that discretion is strictly maintained, and all data belongs to the tribes."

The second BRFSS of this year, completed in December 2005, had more respondents and more participating tribes than the first BRFSS which included four U.P. tribes. Such surveys will be conducted annually to increase knowledge concerning Native health issues. The survey's

ability to differentiate tribal specific data, which encouraged tribal participation, is an added bonus. The Inter-Tribal Council now has the ability to provide tribes with a very clear picture of their community's health related issues, something never before seen.

Cathy Edgerly, ITCM's Steps Program Manager, is very enthusiastic saying, "now that a Native American specific Behavioral Risk Survey exists, tribes can use this self-reported data to concentrate on reducing health risk behaviors, such as smoking. I'm concerned that 34% of our respondents reported being current smokers. This is nearly 50% higher than Michigan's general population. We can now face such challenges by increasing health awareness among members, improving health programming, and increasing funding by using the valuable data for grant writing purposes."

The ITCM also encourages tribal members to participate in any future BRFSS. If you have any questions or comments, please visit the ITCM website at www.itcml.org/itcprojectsteps.html.

For more information contact:

Cathy Edgerly, Program Manager
Phone number: 906-632-6896 x 133
E-mail address: cathye@itcml.org

Native American Fish & Wildlife Society

Native American Environmental Awareness Summer Youth Practicum

July 16-23, 2006

Mt. Evans Outdoor Education Lab School, Evergreen, Colo.

Deadline to Apply: May 1, 2006

The Native American Fish and Wildlife Society 16th Annual National Native American Environmental Awareness Summer Youth Practicum is scheduled for July 16-23 in Evergreen, Colo.

The practicum is designed to provide Native students an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the field of natural resources. One of the goals of the Society is to encourage Native youth to pursue careers in natural resource fields. The Society believes in a re-awakening of the traditional values of Native-to-environment relationships that are needed for tribes to make effective and sound natural resource management decisions.

The program provides an academic experience in a mountain youth camp environment. During the program, students will spend their time at the Mt. Evans Outdoor Education Lab School of the Jefferson County School District participating in classroom sessions, field education, recreational activities, field trips, traditional methods, and interaction with professional, cultural and spiritual people. A unique aspect of the program is the use of Native American professionals who are active in the field along with the invaluable teachings of Native American Elders.

The Summer Youth Practicum is open to incoming 10-12th grade Native students who are interested in the preservation, protection and enhancement of natural resources. Because physical activities are part of the practicum, students must be in good physical condition.

For more information, please write or call Sally Carufel-Williams, youth practicum coordinator, Native American Fish & Wildlife Society, 8333 Greenwood Blvd – Suite #260, Denver CO, 80221-4483, ph: 303-466-1725; fax: 303-466-5414; swilliams@nafws.org.

All applications must be postmarked and mailed by May 1, 2006. Only complete applications will be considered.



Book Review - Playing Indian

by Philip Deloria

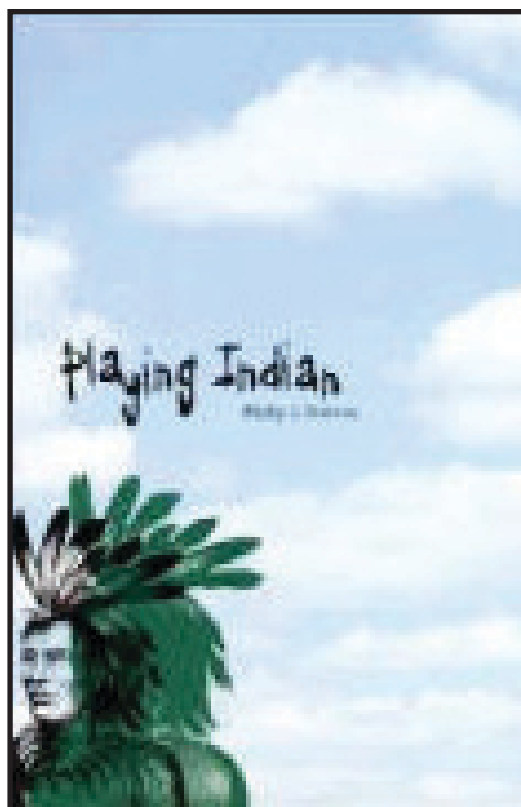
BOOK REVIEW BY MONIQUE JONAITIS #1773
PHD STUDENT IN NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Philip Deloria in *Playing Indian* wraps his curiosity around the following question that I too have pondered: Why are white Americans so obsessed with Indians and Indianness? To tackle this question, Deloria initiates the conversation by recounting American history and links the Euro-American obsession with Indianness to the American Revolution and the Boston Tea Party in 1773. In protest against paying taxes to the British Crown, an angry mob of Americans stormed onto the Dartmouth, Eleanor and Beaver cargo ships and began dumping East India Company tea into the Boston Harbor, a.k.a. "The Boston Tea Party." The "pirates" masked themselves in Indian costumes: feathers, war bonnets, leather leggings, and their perceived demeanor of "wild Indians." Deloria argues that it is this historical event that sets the stage for repeated and countless masquerades of Indianness by non-Indians over the last 200 years. In *Playing Indian*, Deloria theorizes that American identity among non-Indians proves to be a contested area; the liminal space where the push-pull forces of being and the imagination of being are in a constant tug of war.

Deloria picks up where British writer D.H. Lawrence left off. Lawrence argued that the "American consciousness was essentially 'unfinished' (emphasis mine) and incomplete" (3). Deloria emphasizes that the early Americans' consciousness constructed their identities around the "rejection of an older European consciousness and almost mystical imperative to become new (emphasis mine)" (2). In fact, during this time period Euro-Americans participated in an age old tradition of carnivalesque behaviors as an expression of their negative sentiment towards oppressive religion. The Euro-Americans were asserting their autonomy. Likewise, Deloria asserts that Euro-Americans' minds were captive in a logical paradigm and social order, a very different situation for the Indians, who, for non-Indians, exemplified freedom. Euro-Americans craved this "freedom," and consequently attempted to recreate themselves as "finished" works. The obsession with how to define themselves led Euro-Americans to associate and imagine themselves as a nation. Hence, Euro-Americans, in disguising themselves as Indians served a purpose. It revealed their hidden selves and ultimately masked their true selves; visitors with no claim to land, memory, identity or nation. The integral question for non-Indians was this: What does it mean to not be British and what does it mean to be American? Deloria suggests that even 200 years later in the turbulent 1960s and 1970s, Euro-Americans con-

tinued to play Indian in order to find reassuring identities in a world perceived as chaotic (158).

Various organizations ranging from the Boy Scouts to New Agers are founded on Indian symbologies. According to Deloria, the emergence of such organizations is linked to a crisis of meaning and a complex social world (156) that includes questioning deep-seated truths, interpretations, symbols and meaning. Moreover, in the New Age context, Deloria notes that "non-Indians begin taking up Indian identities in order to lay claim to the cultural power of Indianness in the white imagination" (168). On the contrary, Buhner argues that the construction



of Euro-American identity is a harmless "self-creative cultural free play" (172). Meanwhile, New Agers emphasize personal liberty through consuming Indianness as if it were a commodity (173) because "Indianness offered a deep, authentic, aboriginal Americanness" (183), characteristics that Euro-Americans do not have, and hence, want and crave. Ironically, it is the non-Indian that has constructed the Indian other. Sun Bear and other Native people, for example, have mimicked white mimicking of Indianness (189). The performance of the other by the non-Indian other, so to speak, is replete with examples in my own life as an Anishinaabe woman. For example, I showed the Chris Eyre's film *Smoke Signals* in my Introduction to Native American Literatures class, and a student complained, "Why are we watching this? We don't learn anything new. So what if the main character has relationship problems with his father. I thought we were going to learn about Indians." This student's com-

ment was not an uncommon example of a Euro-American student wanting to watch Indians mimicking the whites' mimicking of Indianness. It was blatantly obvious to me that the student, although he may have not been conscious of it, wanted the romantic version of Indians; feathers and war paint. I cautiously suggested this to him and he emphatically denied it. Needless to say, I considered this to be a worrisome prelude to a future professorship in such a contested area, and purposely during my next class meeting wore a beaded choker around my neck as if to say: "Look, I'm Anishinaabe. Really, I am! Sadly, I felt it necessary to adorn myself with this cultural significance as some sort of proof, not only for the student but for myself, as well.

Throughout *Playing Indian*, Deloria does a thorough job at analyzing Euro-Americans' fascination with Indians and Indianness. The author traces the roots of identity construction and links them to the construction of a national identity. Deloria highlights Euro-American desire to change their deep-rooted sentiment of being "neither here nor there" and any ambiguous definitions of being American. Deloria's analyses are very thought provoking. He, however, consistently speaks of the whites defining Indianness as a negative point with little attempt at discussing the pay-offs that Indian people receive by mimicking the others' construction of Indianness. In many cases, Indians are performing their Indianness because the market demands it. Aside from Deloria's side-stepping this issue, I appreciate this text and would recommend it to those history buffs out there, as well as those who continue to be perplexed by American identity issues.

Refernce: Deloria, Philip. *Playing Indian*. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 1998. pp 249.



Above: Philip Deloria

Professional Narcotics K-9 Visits Tribal Council



Left to right: Lieutenant Stephen Junewick; Public Safety Director, Joe LaPorte; K-9 Trainer, Michael Morgan.

Michael Morgan, the owner and full-time dog trainer of Mid-Michigan Kennels was invited to make a presentation of his K-9's abilities for the Tribal Council. LRBOI Public Safety Director Joe LaPorte and Lieutenant Stephen Junewick arranged to have Mr. Morgan drive from Eaton Rapids (Lansing area) to demonstrate how his dogs have been helping officers catch drug dealers.



Mexx Searching...

Attending the presentation were Counselors Elaine Porter and Kimberley Alexander, both of whom seemed as fascinated as the rest of us by the amazing work these dogs are capable of.

Mr. Morgan explained to us how he can train his dogs to do three distinct jobs; drug search, bomb or explosives search and 'patrol' which includes a number of activities. Interestingly, one dog is usually trained in drug search and patrol or explosives search and patrol (Dual Purpose – Detect and Protect). The simple reason for this, as Mr. Morgan explained, is that if a dog is trained in both narcotics and

explosives detection, an officer searching school lockers would not be able to tell if the dog had found drugs, a gun or if the locker could be rigged to explode when opened. The same thing would be true of luggage at the airport or parcels at the Post Office! Training dogs to recognize only one category of dangerous and illegal substances ensures better safety for the public and for the handlers.

So what can a 'patrol' dog do? A Patrol K-9 is trained to search for people, either missing children, lost individuals or a suspect on the run. They are trained to 'apprehend' a suspect, which is what we have seen on television; a man in a big 'bite suit' watching a dog coming toward him at full speed and gripping his bundled arm for dear life! These dogs know how to search an area; they enter a building when it could be dangerous for a police officer to do so, and are much better at finding anyone that is hidden inside! They can be sent in pursuit of a person running from a car or grab a suspect's arm before shots are fired. A trained dog's skills make patrolling safer for the officer. These tactics are tools that an officer can use to make him/her self more effective in his/her difficult and dangerous job.

Narcotics dogs, which is the purpose LRBOI intends to 'hire' a K-9 for, are trained to recognize, detect, and alert their handlers to the smell of four different drug categories; Marijuana (including hashish and other derivatives); Cocaine (crack, etc.); Methamphetamines; and Heroin. A dog can comfortably learn to identify more than seven scents, but keeping it



Mexx Searching... Found!

limited to four categories ensures high performance. Having a dog help officers detect illegal substances enables them to quickly and unobtrusively identify individuals in the possession of illegal drugs. This would enable Tribal Police to greatly limit the presence of drugs in the casino. Another great advantage to having a dog that knows what he/she is doing and a properly trained handler is that if an of-

ficer suspects that a narcotics transaction has occurred within a suspect's vehicle, unless the suspect gives permission to search the vehicle, the officer would need a warrant to do a search. This delay would enable the suspect to simply, and legally, drive away. But, as a matter of technicality, the air around a vehicle is public property; thus, a dog can search the area around the car with its nose and if the dog indicates that a substance is detected, this gives probable cause to the officer; he can now search the car legally!



K-9 Trainer & Owner of Mid-Michigan Kennels, Michael Morgan

In order to impress upon us the effectiveness of his dogs and how much they could enhance our casino security, make our officers safer on the job and help in ensuring the Tribal community is kept drug-free, Mr. Morgan brought Mexx, one of his K-9s with him. Mexx is a young German Sheppard who is friendly, full of energy and certainly eager to do his job – in return for his ball. Before his presentation, Mr. Morgan had hidden some Marijuana in an office, placing it first in Zip-lock Baggies, then in a thick plastic pencil holder and finally, he hid it at the very back of a filing cabinet. Mexx had not been in the building until then, (he was in the truck) and was as most dogs are, quite happy to meet all of us. But as soon as he was called to duty, the Sheppard sprang to action – within seconds, he had found the hidden package. Mr. Morgan explained to us that a dog can not only smell much better than we can, he can also separate the smells from one another. For example, where we smell stew, he smells beef, potatoes, pepper, onions, carrots, etc. Which means that where we smell, say gasoline, he could smell gas and cocaine; where we smell air freshener, he smells marijuana.

This is what makes a detection dog an asset to a police force in the war against illegal drugs.

Article by: Emily Drouin

2005 Spring Gathering - "A Time of Healing"

March 25, 2005

Chambers.

The purpose of the gathering was to express the need for Healing in the Tribal Community. Mr. Wilson made a statement encouraging the pursuit of positive solutions to a growing concern here at LRBOI. He insisted on the importance of seeing ourselves as family. "We are all brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, grandparents, cousins." He said, "let's treat each other with that same respect in mind". As he welcomed Jack Chambers, he explained that he had invited his teacher to begin a time of healing in the Tribe and to give teachings to those present on how to overcome the frustrating and difficult issues that sometimes arise in a community.

Jack Chambers stood and introduced himself. Filled with timeless wisdom,



Warrior Society starting procession

and speckled with humor, he delivered an explanation of what the Cedar tree we were about to plant represented in the healing process of the community. "The roots of this tree are the members of this Tribe. The tree that stands on the surface is the Tribe that you support through your connection to Mother Earth."

After receiving his teachings, we proceeded out to the tree and Julie Wolfe asked us all to place an offering of the sacred medicines into a common bundle. Everyone present knelt by the tree and prayed for the Healing we wanted for the Tribe. The bundle was then placed in the ground where it would nourish the Healing Tree.

Council Speaker Steve Parsons, Housing Director Chuck Fisher, John Shepard and



Council Woman Elaine Porter

Ogema Wilson then took the young cedar and placed it in the ground, surrounded it with rich soil and Sharron Detz poured water around it to ensure that it grows strong as a symbol of unity and continued healing.

Steve Parsons and Chuck Fisher made it their responsibility to ensure that the tree was well surrounded by fencing to protect it from the deer that might find it appetizing. Good job to both of you!

We then went back under the tent and there, five pipe carriers awaited with their bundles open on a table facing the gathered; sage and cedar burning, the energy could be felt under the thundering tent roof.

Jack Chambers started talking to us. His voice carried as he spoke of healing, he spoke of jealousy, he spoke of anger, he spoke of love and of language, and of family. He made us laugh - "to avoid tears, we must be able to laugh!" He said -, he made our heads bow in silent recognition of responsibility and he made Member's chins come up in pride for being a part of

the great people called the Anishinaabec. Jack Chambers then introduced a beautiful pipe, saying that it was one made to be kept by two men together as the bowl is too big for one man to keep burning alone. He explained the significance of the pipe's stem as a masculine part and of the stone bowl as a feminine part, how they must be kept separately to preserve balance and that their power came from being assembled. Mr. Chambers then called Patrick Wilson and Al Medacco in front of him and gave them the responsibility of caring for this pipe and keeping its message of healing and togetherness alive for the people.

We were then all asked to come forward and place an offering of Sema (tobacco) with our own prayer for the community in a container placed in front of each pipe carrier.

As we filed from one pipe to another, it became clear that this gathering of Carriers was about as complete as one could ask for; Bill Memberto was first, representing Family; Kenny Pheasant, representing Language; Jack Chambers, an elder and a welcome guest; Jimmie Mitchell, associate with Natural Resources though the Sturgeon Program; and Patrick -

CONTINUED P. 18



Above: Jack Chambers addressing the crowd before planting the tree.

Left: Warrior Society Standing to Attention with Flags

Below: Flags displayed



“A Time of Healing” - Continued from page 17

Wilson, the representative for the People as Tribal Ogema. This was an opportunity to pray for all that is important in the timelessness of Indian Country.

What followed was a great moment that some of us have never seen before, and will probably seldom again be a witness to; all five pipe carriers stood and ceremoniously lit their pipes.

In a respectful silence, we sat and stood while each carrier, in his own way, asked the Great Spirit and our ancestors for healing in the community, and for a message to deliver on that day to those gathered under the tent. We sat watching and when all the pipes had gone out, each Carrier, starting with our guest and Elder Mr. Chambers spoke to us of the message they wanted us to hear.

Jack told of Jealousy and of the Seven Grandfathers. He spoke of how to remain true to the Seven Teachings and of overcoming Jealousy and all that it leads to. Bill Memberto reminded us of the seven villains that accompany the seven

Grandfathers and how they try to trick us into following them instead of a path of honor. He also talked about Family and the importance of trust and respect and of support amongst family members. Kenny Pheasant delivered his message in Anishinaabemoen, affirming that Language is a healer.

Patrick Wilson brought forward the notions of cooperation and of respect; he spoke of the trials he faces as Ogema and how he is determined to do what is best for the people of the Little River Band of Ottawa no matter how difficult it might sometimes be and of how much it means to him to ensure that a healing process is perpetuated in all possible ways.

Then Jimmie Mitchell closed the comments by offering his prayers of healing to the Tribe and by speaking of all the good embedded in the people gathered, the ceremony and the teachings offered. We then sat thoughtfully to take in all that had been said and to fully internalize the importance of their message of Healing and Community.

A prayer was said to bless the food that was prepared and we all followed the Elders (As Jack pointed out; “those above the speed limit”) in eating a wonderful feast provided by the Ogema’s office and prepared by the Gibson Family.

Article by: Emily Drouin



*Photos - top left to bottom right:
Julie Wolfe tying ribbon to tree; Ogema Patrick Wilson addressing the crowd;
Gathered around the tree;
Elder Jack Chambers addressing the crowd;
Council Speaker Steve Parsons(left), John Shepard (center), Ogema Wilson (right) planting tree;
Sharron M. Detz watering the tree;
Gathered; Julie Wolfe and children around tree.*

Moon Bear Pottery & Indian Arts



Shirley and a Bronze in her studio.

Shirley Brauker has been an artist for as long as she can remember. Her art, headlined by strikingly carved pottery has carried her, her students and her devotees through an understanding and deep appreciation of native culture and tradition.

With assurance, she creates artifacts that tell stories. Her paintings, pottery and sculptures are inspired by her Anishinaabe background and carry with them the teachings of a tradition that is rooted in the materials she uses.

"I carve stories and patterns into the pots to create the images. Each pot is like a blank canvas. I try to express my heritage on the surface." She told me that when you take one of her vases in your hands, you can 'read' the story it tells by turning it and following the image it contains. How wonderful to hold a piece of clay and feel the cold earth in your hands, while at the same time feasting on the teachings or story it contains.



Ceramic Jar "Midnight War Pony" with real horse hairs.

Her trademark technique was shown to her in a dream. She is honored and thankful to have had this teaching and is proud to teach this method to many students. Indeed, this proud Tribal Member has been invited to share her knowledge as far away as Sitka, Alaska!

Holding a Master of Arts Degree from Central Michigan University, she is not only a great artist, but also a pleasure to talk to. Her enthusiasm for her crafts transcends the fact of artistry and enters the realm of social and cultural awareness. She is eager to learn about her culture because she is eager to promote and to perpetuate

knowledge of her culture through her unique work.

"[...] I found time, even while attending college, to teach art to children and adults. I enjoy working with students of all ages; watching them turn a lump of clay into a work of art. I try to instill their personal experiences into a 'record' of how they see things."

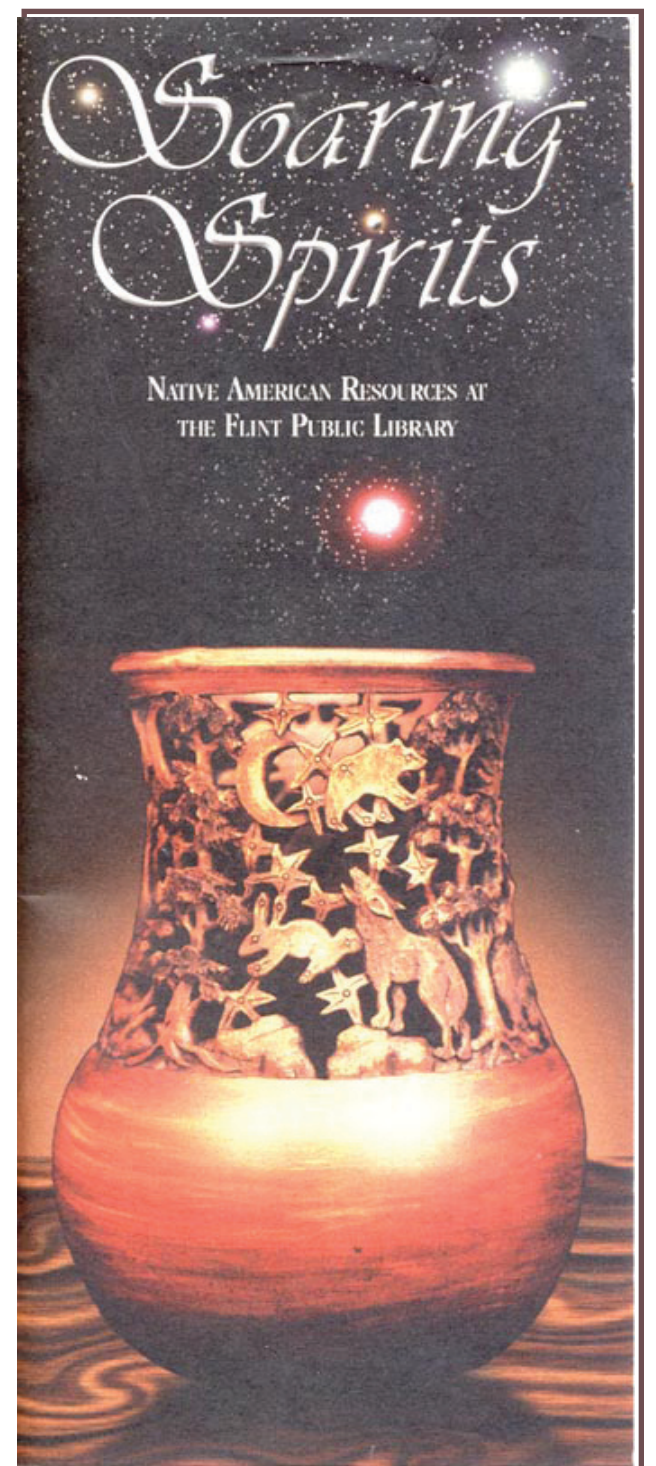
In May of 2002, Shirley delivered the commencement speech for the 2002 Graduation Ceremony for the Aabizikaawin Adult and Alternative Education School in Mount Pleasant; she has been on the cover of the CMU Alumni Magazine; and this year, she has been selected to be one of two "Indian Artist Liaisons" for the Eitljorg's Indian Art Museum to help connect the artists and the Eitljorg staff during the June art market.

There are several reasons to be proud of counting Shirley Brauker in the Membership of the Little River Band; the greatest might well be that she herself is proud to be Anishinaabec.



Grizzly Bears & Salmon. stoneware clay pottery - carved.

Above: Painting: "Going to the Pow Wow"



Stars Brochure. It was used for the Flint Library Native American collection.

USEPA and LRBOI Take on Cleanup of Manistee Lake



On Wednesday, March 29, representatives from the Tribe, State and local government, and members of local industry, attended a presentation on the environmental condition of Manistee Lake. The presentation was made by Robert Powell, Senior Environmental Scientist with the firm of Horizon Environmental.



This presentation was the culmination of a two-year study project within the Environmental Program of the Tribal Natural Resources Department. Funding for the study and Wednesday's presentation came from the USEPA as part of the environmental General Assistance Program (GAP) grant to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. This grant program was created by USEPA to assist LRBOI in creating and managing the environmental programs for the Treaty Reservation Area.

Mr. Powell presented a summary of the pollutant sources and environmental issues facing Manistee Lake, based on a number of public documents and studies. He then brought these various pieces of information together, to help create an overall picture of the state of Manistee Lake.

Mr. Powell then presented a list of "next steps" that could be taken to further investigate, and improve, Manistee Lake. "This is a list that you, as residents around Manistee Lake, should be creating. This is your lake, and you should be involved in creating the plan for its future," Powell told the audience on Wednesday.

The presentation created a lot of energy among the members of industry and local government in the audience. As the presentation was concluded, many stayed after to discuss ways that they could help move forward with the Manistee Lake project. The Tribal Environmental Program, with continuing assistance from USEPA, will take the lead role in coordinating these efforts.

If you have any questions about the condition Manistee Lake, or about your environment in general, please contact Frank Beaver, LRBOI Environmental Planner, at 231.398.2191 or by email at fbeaver@lrboi.com.

Article and pictures submitted by:
Frank Beaver
Environmental Planner
LRBOI



LRBOI Brownfield Program Looking for Volunteers

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Brownfield program is looking for:
Three (3) Tribal Elders and Three (3) Tribal Members
to volunteer to attend a community outreach meeting on
Friday, May 19, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The individuals who volunteer will help identify potential Brownfield Sites within the Reservation Boundaries.

Brownfields are defined as;

"Real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant."

If you are interesting in volunteering, please contact:
Sara Bizon, Brownfield Specialist at:
(231) 398-6802 or sbizon@lrboi.com.



04/02/2006

On the Wing - Mute swans are beautiful, but deadly

By KAY CHARTER - SPECIAL TO THE RECORD-EAGLE

How would we react if we opened our morning newspaper to find a headline that read as follows: "Nests of endangered and threatened birds destroyed" Without a doubt, most of us would want to hunt down the culprits and mete out serious punishments. We absolutely would do everything in our power to make certain it never happened again.

The sad reality is that this actually did happen in Chesapeake Bay, where nesting populations of endangered least terns and threatened black skimmers were not only disturbed, they have actually been eliminated by mute swans.

With its wings arched elegantly over its back, and its neck held in a graceful curve, the mute swan is one of the most beautiful of all waterfowl as it moves silently across the water. But this bird is not native to North America. It is an alien species from Northern Europe and parts of Asia. It was introduced in this country when it was brought in as an ornamental species for parks, zoos and private estates. As with most successful non-native species this one didn't just survive and reproduce. It thrived, its population exploded, and it is now doing significant damage where it occurs.

Mute swans reach sexual maturity at about three years of age and can live 25 years or longer. With each pair raising four to five cygnets (young) annually, it's easy to see how local populations increase exponentially.

In the troubled Chesapeake Bay region, this species grew from five individuals in the early 1960s to more than 4,000 by 2002. Breeding mute pairs aggressively defend their nests and young against all comers, using their powerful wings and strong bills to drive away any other waterfowl. They outcompete endangered native trumpeter swans for breeding sites and food resources. They adversely impact

numerous native species, including loons, ducks, geese and migrating tundra swans. They have even been known to displace or kill species that have entered their nesting areas, and they have a deleterious impact on the beds of native aquatic plants upon which native water birds feed. In high densities, they have overgrazed wetland vegetation to the point that the carrying capacity of the ecosystem has been reduced.

It is for these reasons that groups as diverse as the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, the Migratory Committee of the Conservation Congress, and the Wisconsin Wetlands Association are calling for the elimination — or at least reduction — in mute swan populations.

Some states, including Michigan and Wisconsin, are actively trying to restore populations of native trumpeter swans. Without the control of mutes, however, these programs may ultimately fail. As long as the mute population growth goes unchecked, threatened species such as loons will have ever greater difficulties finding suitable — and safe — nesting sites.

When asked about the presence of mute swans in Chesapeake Bay, Dr. Greg Butcher, Director of Bird Conservation for National Audubon said, "I strongly believe that the Chesapeake Bay, given its poor health, can only host one species of swan, and that the swan it should host is tundra."

This issue is a very sticky wicket for state and federal wildlife management personnel. These swans are incredibly popular birds. They are handsome, and they are immortalized in literature and music as symbols of love, purity and fidelity — never mind that they do not always mate for life and that they often stray outside their pair bonds. Because of their popularity, efforts to control their numbers are inevitably met with angry outcries, pro-

tests and sometimes lawsuits. Even oiling the eggs, which prevents development and hatching, has been opposed.

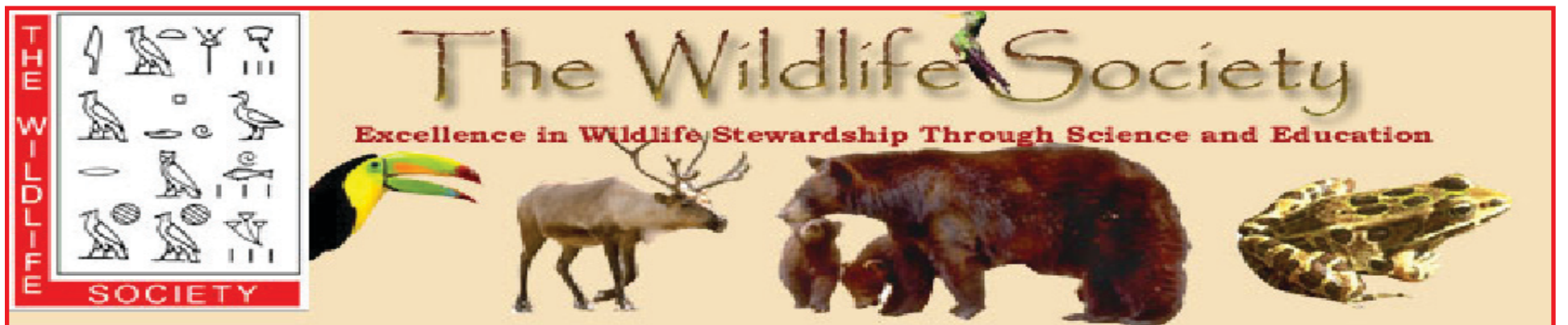
At an awards banquet in Lansing last month, I sat next to a DNR wildlife biologist who told me that efforts to restore trumpeter swans to Grand Traverse Bay were abandoned because of the mutes.

Those who take up the banner on behalf of mute swans must ask themselves if protecting them is worth the prospect of giving up the loons, least terns, black skimmers, trumpeter swans and other waterfowl that are negatively impacted by them. Just as purple loosestrife and phragmites choke wetland ecosystems and autumn olive and spotted knapweed degrade upland habitats, these beautiful and elegant birds place an unacceptably heavy burden on native North American environments where they now occur.

Kay Charter is executive director of Saving Birds Thru Habitat, an organization dedicated to teaching people how to help migrating birds whose populations are declining.



A couple of Trumpeter Swans



Wildlife Society Annual Conference

Anchorage, AK September 23-27, 2006

The Native Peoples Working Group is offering travel scholarships to attend the Conference in Alaska (specifically the Tribal Symposium) for any Tribal member who is a student in Natural Resources.

The grant will pay for: Travel to and from Alaska; Registration for the conference; Hotel accommodations

If anyone is interested please contact:

Nathan J. Svoboda - Wildlife Biologist, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660

Office (231) 723-1594 ext. 2188, Cell (231) 690-3487, nsvoboda@lrboi.com



Little River Casino Resort

Look what's Rolling
at the River

Little River Casino Resort has welcomed the following newly hired preference employees:

Kristin Johnson – Data Entry Clerk
Leiha Upton – Slot Representative
Lewis Adams – Restaurant Supervisor
Teresa Duby – Retail Clerk
Todd Thomas – Security II

Preference Employees at LRCR celebrating "Years of Service" Anniversaries in May include:

- Jonnie Sam
May 3 – Seven Years
- Frank Medacco
May 22 – Six Years
- Gail Lamorandier-Morris
May 28 – Four Years
- Susan Myers
May 11 – Two Years
- Robert Rodriguez
May 4 – One Year
- William Lemere
May 19 – One Year

Internship Opportunities at the Little River Casino Resort

We want to remind everyone about the Internship Program available at the Little River Casino Resort. This is an opportunity extended to anyone attending an accredited college or university needing to complete a required college/university sponsored internship. As a LRCR intern, you can expect to work on substantive projects, develop professional skills, and benefit from the personal attention of department leaders. There will be weekly meetings, training, and much more that will be mandatory for you to attend and participate in. For more information regarding Internship opportunities, please contact Lisa Sagala, Recruiting Supervisor at 231-723-4530 or 888-568-2244.

OASIS System at LRCR

We've recently brought a new casino management system to the Little River Casino Resort. It's called OASIS and was developed by Aristocrat Technologies, Inc. This system will replace the current slot system (IGS) and enhance many departments as well as our customer service. On the Slot side, it will allow the guests to be serviced faster and give slot reps a more user friendly computer system. For Marketing which includes Player's Club and Player Development, there are many applications to enhance the services they provide. Better player tracking and the ability to use "at the machine" promotions to name just a few. The OASIS system will also mean easier reporting for Audit and Accounting. Table Games and Cage will also be implementing the system for table fills and credits. This has been a huge undertaking and many individuals across several departments have put in countless hours to get it operational within strict deadlines. The whole transfer from the old system to the new took 3 days. Slot Operations and Slot Performance worked with the ATI techs to change over the entire floor. IT has done a great job managing the project for the property as well as setting up the training area in the training center. This is one further step in making the Little River Casino Resort Michigan's foremost entertainment resort destination and employer of choice.

Sally Jobes, EVS Supervisor



Sally Jobes, EVS Supervisor completed a 15 week on-line; three credit course from Bay Mills Community College entitled "Native Americans: Sharing Our Culture and Traditions." The course provided a means of sharing cultural and traditional norms between the Native American tribes of the

United States. It demonstrates the diversity of the Native American ways of life, including cultural changes and continuity of traditions in present-day Native American cultures. Sally stated, "The course was both educational and enlightening. I learned from other students about their traditions, a lot were somewhat similar to what my tribe practices. I say that it was enlightening because some of my fellow tribal members also took the class and it was interesting to read their versions of how their families gathered medicines, ate similar foods; of course the activities were the

same as was the creation story and legend of the Medicine wheel. I am even getting together with one of the students to discuss what is going on with my family; she has had similar experiences and wants to share and help. That is a big part of being Native; the willingness to help each other out. I would like to take this time to thank all those responsible for this class; it has made me want to learn more about what our elders can share with us, before it is lost. It is important to preserve our culture, especially our language, without it we can't survive as a nation. Chi Miigwech." Sally Jobes

JOBS AT LRCR

To obtain Job Descriptions or to apply for positions at the Little River Casino Resort, please call:
888-568-2244 and ask to speak to a Recruiting Representative.
For up to date Job Postings, please visit our website at **lrcr.com** and go to the employment section.
You may also call Human Resources **toll-free at 888-568-2244** or call the **Job Hotline at 800-806-4348**.
The website and hotline are updated as positions become available.

Tribal Member Highlight

Howard Koone Facilities Engineering Supervisor



Howard Koone
Facilities Engineering Supervisor

Howard Koone III was born in Muskegon; one of seven children born to Irma and the late Howard Koone. As a young boy, he fondly remembers fishing and hunting with his dad and uncle. His grandfather, Henry (Hank) Koon, inspired Howard's mechanical abilities by having him help work on small engines, etc. When Grandfather Hank was younger, he gained notoriety in his home town area of Manistee when he became a star pro-wrestler. Hank's fights in the Chicago area are commemorated in the lobby of a bank in Chicago that displays photos of the early days of that city.

Howard's military inclinations came from the fact that his dad, uncles, and both grandfathers served in the military. One uncle was awarded the Silver Cross, one of the United State's highest honors, for saving his platoon by retrieving a company radio that was stolen by the Japanese. Even though the Japanese came back while he was retrieving it and

were within a few feet of him, he went undetected. The newspapers back home read that "The Japanese thought that PFC Koon was a tree in the jungle." Howard's father served with a company of Marines that advanced the furthest into North Korea where they were surrounded for ambush at the Choson Reservoir by North Koreans and communist Chinese. That was when the commander made this historical Marine Corps statement, "They're in front of us, behind us, to our left, and to our right, they can't get away from us now!" Howard's father survived with a wounded ankle. Howard attended school in Muskegon and enlisted in the Marines at age 17. Immediately after flight training he was assigned to the 3rd Marine Air Wing, Fleet Marine Force Pacific where he worked as a Crew Chief on a CH-53 "Sea Stallion" helicopter. Howard served at various duty stations in the Orient and on board the aircraft carrier USS New Orleans. After returning to the Marine Corps Air Station in Santa Anna California, he was assigned as a weapons and tactics instructor, training pilots and air crews at the Marine Air Base in Yuma Arizona.

Howard returned to civilian life, moving to Alaska and worked for two years on his friend's dad's fishing boat. Howard returned home to Muskegon where he worked various maintenance and construction jobs over the next several years. He also worked for the US Postal Service and received several awards for making beneficial changes, one of which was fabricating a design change to a computerized pneumatic sorting machine that resulted in saving the Grand Rapids Post Office \$90,000 a year in productivity. Howard also found time to attend Community

College in Grand Rapids and Muskegon. Howard has three children; Tyler is a Graphic Designer in Grand Rapids, Logan is attending college in Chicago and will receive his Bachelor's Degree in Computer/Game Design this summer, and Jared is still in high school and works for his oldest brother.

Prior to beginning his employment at the Little River Casino Resort, Howard was working at both Powder Coat Technologies and his own business "Skynet Electronics." Howard has made his home in the Manistee area since 1999 when he became one of the first LRCR employees. He was initially hired as an Engineer in the Facilities department and in June 2002 was promoted to Facilities Maintenance Supervisor. One of his co-workers commented, "Howard is quiet and appears shy, however he is very knowledgeable." According to Jerry Guenthardt, Director of Facilities at LRCR, "Howard is our go-to guy when it comes to the Fire Protection System on property. He's doing a good job and works at continually improving his skills."

Howard trained hunting dogs for several years and ran his dogs in national field trials. He also enjoys crafts and gardening; last year providing several sweet grass braids and sage (smudge sticks) for the Tribal Gathering at the Casino. His current project is a portfolio box for his son that he is making from cedar and deer hide. Howard is a proud member of the Little River Band Warriors Society, the group that brought the Little River Band, veterans' memorial wall to the casino.

During 2003-2005, Howard participated in a distance learning program through the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, maintaining a GPA of 3.4 and earning 43 college credits. He plans to enroll at West Shore Community College to complete a degree in business.

Casino Discount

We are pleased to announce the creation of an employee and Tribal member discount in all LRCR food outlets. This new program provides a 20% discount in all food outlets at the resort for all LRCR and LRBOI employees and LRBOI Tribal members. The program starts effective April 1st, 2006.

The following guidelines apply:

- Discounts can only be applied to food and beverages purchased by an LRCR/LRBOI employee or Tribal member for up to six people
- Discounts are available during all outlet operating hours regardless of whether an employee is on or off duty.
- Employees or Tribal members must present their actual employee ID or Tribal ID to the cashier at the time of purchase in order to have the discount applied to that purchase. Cashiers are not authorized to apply the discount without the required ID being presented.
- These discounts cannot be combined with any other discounts, offers or programs such as Tribal two for one Thursdays or Club 55.
- Sales tax will be applied to the amount after the discount. The total, including tax, will be due at the time of the sale.
- Discounts are available in the actual food outlets only and cannot be applied to food or beverage purchases made:
 - o on the gaming floor
 - o at entertainment events, shows, concessions or other marketing sponsored events,
 - o events held in any conference facility
 - o from room service or other delivery programs.
- The discount is available from November 1st through June 30th and will not be available during:
 - o peak season: July 1 through October 31st
 - o New Year's Eve
 - o any other high volume special events or holidays at management's sole discretion.

If you are uncertain, please check with your waitperson, host or cashier upon your arrival.

**LRCR and F&B management reserve the right to modify or cancel this program at any time.*

We hope you enjoy this new discount designed to provide you more opportunities to use our food outlets. Bon Appetit!



*Left: Yvonne Theodore
Right: Laurie Jackson*

Laurie Jackson - New Full-Time Employee

Laurie has been an asset to the Commodity Department for about 2 years as a hard working part-time employee, she became a full-time employee on February 13th of this year.

The Department is getting busier and Program Director Yvonne Theodore is grateful for the extra help!

Welcome to Full-Time Commodity Work, Laurie!

Recipe: Skillet Jambalaya (Serve 4)

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 1 pound of large shrimps shelled and deveined (a frozen pack is ok)
 - 1 medium size onion
 - 1 cup celery, chopped
 - 1 cup green pepper, chopped
 - 1 tablespoon Cajun seasoning (important)
 - 1 cup of rice
 - 1 19-ounce can of diced tomatoes
 - 1 1/2 cup of chicken broth
 - 1 cup of chopped roasted red peppers (optional)
 - 1 zucchini, chopped
 - Minced fresh parsley, & lemon slices to garnish
- One large skillet
(the entire recipe is cooked and served in it)
- Heat oil over medium-high heat in large skillet.
- Cook shrimp just until opaque and lightly pink-golden (3-4 min). Set aside on plate.
- Lower heat to medium. Add onion, celery, green pepper and Cajun seasoning, stirring occasionally, until tender about 5 min.
- Stir in rice until coated with the mixture (1 min). Add can of diced tomatoes and chicken broth. Bring to boil.
- Sprinkle red peppers (optional) and zucchini.
- Cover; reduce heat to low and simmer until most of the liquid has been absorbed and rice is tender, about 20 min. Stir in shrimps.
- To serve, sprinkle with minced parsley and lemon slices.
Enjoy! (-:
- Variation:
May add 8 ounces sliced spicy sausage, or boneless chicken pieces or oysters.

Guideline Eligibility Chart

Food Distribution Program monthly income guidelines from the USDA .

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations net monthly income standards for the the Contiguous United States

(Effective October 1st. 2005)

Household Size	Income Limit
1	\$932.00
2	\$1,204.00
3	\$1,475.00
4	\$1,747.00
5	\$2,042.00
6	\$2,335.00
7	\$2,607.00
8	\$2,879.00
Each additional member + \$ 272.00	

For more information call :

1-888-723-8288 or 1-231-398-7615 or 1-231-398-6716
Ask for Yvonne Theodore
or George Lawrence or Laurie Jackson
Office hours are:
8:00 A.M to 5:00 P.M

The Food Distribution Program serves 13 counties:

Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Wexford, Osecola, Mecosta, Ottawa.
For information call: 1-888-723-8288 or 1-231-398-6715 and 1-231-398-6716 ask for Yvonne Theodore or George Lawrence or Laurie Jackson. Office Hours are 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Commission, Committee and Board Stipend Payments Collected for Fiscal Year 2006

In Accordance with Resolution #03-0813-248



1. Commissions are created to regulate and manage within a subject matter or activity.
 - a. Membership. A commission has commissioners who shall be appointed by the Ogema and approved by the Tribal Council.
 - b. Authority. A commission shall be granted sufficient legislative authority to allow the commission to create regulations to govern in the subject matter jurisdiction.

Commissions are created by adoption of an Ordinance which sets forth the legislative requirements, direction, limitations, restrictions or other directions regarding a subject matter. Upon adoption of an Ordinance, the commissioners shall be identified and directed to develop and present by-laws.

The Tribal Council shall establish Tribal Committees, as needed, in areas of governance and development. The Committees shall be composed of Tribal members and other interested persons who shall meet and discuss specific issues in order to provide information to the Tribal Council so that the Council can make better informed decisions that affect the Tribal community. In furtherance of this purpose, this Policy will provide rules for the organization, functions, responsibilities, and requirements of Tribal Committees.

2. Commission/Committee Schedules:

Commissions:

Binojeeuk Commission: 10:00 a.m., 2nd and 4th Mondays
Gaming Commission Conference Room
Boxing Commission: 11:00 a.m., Tuesdays
Little River Casino Resort
Enrollment Commission: 5:30 p.m., Mondays
Community Center
Gaming Commission: 5:30 p.m., Tuesdays
Gaming Commission Office
Housing Commission: 11:00 a.m., Thursdays
Housing Office
Natural Resource Commission: 5:30 p.m., Thursdays
Natural Resource Department

Committees:

Cultural Preservation – 3:30 p.m., Tuesdays
Dome Room - Downtown Office Building
Elders – 12:00 noon, 1st Saturday of each month
Community Center
Small Business Task Force – 4:00 p.m., 2nd and 4th Thursdays
Law Library – Downtown Office Building

Special or Emergency Meetings do not appear but may be scheduled.

Applications for appointment for these positions consist of a letter of interest and an application form which identifies the individual's personal and professional background. Applications for the positions also require a letter of interest to be filed with the Tribal Ogema.

Note: All Commissioners are required to sign a conflict of interest form.

Commission members receive a stipend of \$100.00 per meeting for their service to this important government function.

Commission/Committee Stipends Paid

January 1, 2006 to March 31, 2006

Cultural Preservation Committee

Tribal Council Liaisons – Israel Stone
*Liaison attended 0 out of 5 meetings

Stella Gibson	\$200
Steve Lewis	\$200
Jerry Ramsey	\$250
Mary Thomas	\$250

Elders Committee

Tribal Council Liaison – Elaine Porter
*Liaison attended 3 out of 3 meetings

Judith Nedeau	\$150
Joe Kelsey	\$150
Rosemary Smith	\$100
Leatrice Castonia	\$150
Don Stone	\$100
Peggy Boxer	\$100

Binojeeuk Commission

Tribal Council Liaison – Kim Alexander
*Liaison attended 8 out of 8 meetings

Joan Spalding	\$800
Robert Stone	\$650
Cindy Champagne	\$700

Gaming Commission

Tribal Council Liaison – Janine M. Sam
*Liaison attended 0 out of 13 meetings

Bonnie Kenny	\$ 625
Lee Ivinson	\$1,225
Joan Spalding	\$1,300

Enrollment Commission

Tribal Council Liaison – Norbert Kelsey
*Liaison attended 6 out of 10 meetings

Katie Glocheski	\$1,000
Diana O'Neal	\$1,000
Margery Lutz	\$ 900
Roger Sprague	\$ 300
Don Stone	\$ 800
Jacqueline Rose	\$1,000
Joe Kelsey	\$1,000

Housing Commission

Tribal Council Liaison – Steve Parsons
*Liaison attended 3 out of 12 meetings

John Ross	\$1,100
Alfred Medacco	\$1,200
Carol Bennett	\$1,200
Delano Peters	\$ 900
Julia Chapman	\$ 900

Small Business Task Force

Tribal Council Liaison – Shannon Crampton
*Liaison attended 0 out of 5 meetings

Virgil Johnson	\$500
Jay Sam	\$500

Boxing Commission

Tribal Council Liaison – Israel Stone
*Liaison attended 9 out of 16 meetings

Pat Ruiter	\$1,600
Shane Crampton	\$1,500
Jim LaPorte	\$1,200

Natural Resource Commission

Tribal Council Liaison – Don Koon
*Liaison attended 1 out of 12 meetings

Alyce Giltz	\$1,100
Mick Moore	\$1,100
Jimmie Mitchell	\$ 900
Virgil Johnson	\$1,100
Mike Ceplina	\$1,200

Current vacancies are available on Commissions and Committees:

Binojeeuk Commission – 1 vacant seat
Small Business Task Force – 1 vacant seat

Anyone interested in serving on one of the above commissions, please submit a letter of interest to the Tribal Ogema with a copy to the Tribal Council.

Cultural Preservation Committee – 1 vacant

Anyone interested in serving on a committee, please submit a letter of interest to the Tribal Council.



Members Assistance Department *Current Assistance Programs*



Members Assistance Program Income Requirements

Family Size	150% FPIG	Eligibility is based on 3 months income prior to application
1	\$14,355	\$3,588.75
2	\$19,245	\$4,811.25
3	\$24,134	\$6,033.75
4	\$29,025	\$7,256.25
5	\$33,915	\$8,478.75
6	\$38,805	\$9,701.25
7	\$43,695	\$10,923.75
8	\$48,585	\$12,146.25

*Federal Income Guideline provided by: Federal Register Part V. Department of Health and Human Services
Dated February 8, 2005*

JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER - The Members Assistance Department hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. We do not close for lunch hour. Staff is available during the noon lunch hour to accomodate membership schedules. If you need assistance please contact the department at anytime or feel free to stop by during regular office hours.

*Program can be accessed by the Parent or Guardian of a member who has not reached the age of 18 or the legal guardian of a member who has been determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to require legal guardian over the person and/or affairs, provided that the guardian is not the State of Michigan or other state government.
**Home Repair Eligibility is based on Annual Income, please contact department for income criteria.

Please contact the Members Assistance Department for complete program information and/or to request an application.

**Amber Moore – Intake Clerk
Linda Wissner – Intake Clerk
Lee A. Ivinson – Members Assistance Coordinator**

**Phone: Toll Free 888-723-8288
Fax 231-398-6748**

Eye for Animals™



**Fine, Fun Photographic Art
Event, Kennel & Farm Albums
Multi-media Productions
Melissa Zelenak 231-533-8225
www.EyeforAnimals.Mitorchlake.com**

CHS and EHAP NEWS

Spring has finally sprung! Don't forget to get outside and enjoy the crisp, fresh air! This time of year is great for walking or bike riding or starting any outdoor exercise program, but make sure and check with your physician before beginning an exercise program.

You have all been great calling in your appointments and returning the reassessments sent to you. Please remember that if there is ANY change in your status, (marriage, divorce, change of address, gain or loss of any insurance, etc.) you will need to complete a reassessment. This does not count as your regular annual assessment. If you are not sure, please call so we can answer your specific questions.

Remember when you call in to report your appointment dates, please give us the exact DATES, not the day of the week. This

helps clear up any discrepancies we may have for the actual date of service. I don't know about you, but I tend to mix up the days of the week, thinking Thursday is Friday (wishful thinking) and things like that.

There have been a few questions raised about referrals to Specialty care. Remember that you CANNOT initiate care to a specialty physician without coordinating a referral through a Tribal Facility or your Primary Care Physician. For example, you want or think you need to see an ENT (Ear, Nose, and Throat) Doctor so you make an appointment. You see the ENT doctor and he or she says you need a procedure or testing done. Then you decide to see the doctor at a Tribal Facility or your Primary Care Physician to get a referral. This will not be a payable service through CHS or EHAP because you have

already initiated the care on your own and did not follow the coordination of care. Coordination of care means a referral is initiated by the Tribal Facility or your Primary Care Physician, if you need a referral the doctor will issue you one based on the medical findings, not because you want one or think you need one.

Remember to call with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the CHS/EHAP programs. The toll free number at the clinic is 1.888.382.8299 or locally 231.723.8299. Miigwech.

Respectfully submitted by,
Gina Wright

Owasippe - Rezoning Request Rejected



At a recent meeting of the Blue Lake Township Planning Commission, the application for rezoning of the Owasippe Scout Reservation property was rejected. The commission passed a motion by a 5-0 vote that recommends the Blue Lake Township Board deny the long-pending rezoning request. An extensive list of the reasons for the recommended rejection was part of the motion.

The Chicago Area Council, Boy Scouts of America submitted the proposal to change the current zoning from Forest Recreational – Institutional, which allows for year-round camping, recreation and educational activities, to various density residential parcels. The Chicago Area Council Boy Scouts own 4,700+ acres of property in Blue Lake Township.

Planning Commission Chairman Lyle Monette made available more than 2,600 individual petitions, submitted from people across the country expressing their feelings against a change in the zoning of the Owasippe property. Also made available were 175 written comments that were submitted to the Planning Commission during the public comment period following the public hearing held in January.

The Muskegon County Planning Commission now will have the opportunity to review the recommendation before it is submitted to the Township Board for action.

In comments to FOX-17 television following the meeting, Chairman Monette

referred to the impact of additional public safety equipment and staff and a doubling of the size of the township population as factors the township would face if the zoning request were granted. In addition the desire of the community to preserve the natural environment and wildlife, including several endangered species, was a consideration.

Devin Schindler, attorney for the Chicago Council, expressed disappointment about the Planning Commission recommendation. He indicated that there is still hope as the Township Board now takes up the issue for a final vote. Schindler indicated he has no idea what the Council would do if the Board votes down the plan.

OOEC REACTION

The Owasippe Outdoor Education Center Board of Directors thanks the Blue Lake Township Planning Commission, township residents and folks from all across the United States for the massive effort to preserve the Owasippe property as a natural treasure. The recommendation of the Planning Commission is an important initial step in the process. More needs to be done to assure in perpetuity that the character of Blue Lake Township is preserved.

The Chicago Council's proposal does not have the endorsement of the Planning Commission. However, the Township Board has the authority to ignore the rec-

ommendation of the Planning Commission and approve the plan. In addition, the Council has the opportunity to move its efforts back to the venue of Circuit Court if it feels its rights have been abused in the rezoning process.

During the next several weeks OOEC will again make SAVE OWASIPPE campaign materials available to reinforce the message that zoning should not be changed for the Owasippe property. We also will be taking additional actions to advance the vision that the current zoning does provide a financially viable opportunity that is in the best interests of all.

The community, with the support of hundreds of people from across the country, has delivered the message that the basic character of Blue Lake Township and the natural environment is at risk if residential development is allowed. The OOEC goal of being a catalyst for positive economic development, with a commitment to preserving the natural treasures of the Owasippe property, has not changed. We will, with continued community support, make every effort to make that vision a reality.

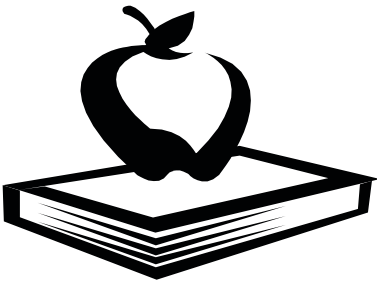
Our vision;
information updates;
and more information
is available on our web site at :

www.ooec.org.

Tribal Members are actively seeking ways to make themselves more valuable to their community, their Tribe and to their Family by taking the academic road to success. In an effort to highlight their paths, offer our wholehearted support and let them know how proud we are to see them follow their dreams and ambitions, the Education Department has compiled a list of their areas of study:

Some of the Tribal Members currently representing us in the academic world are:

- Ø A Post Graduate (PhD) student in the Native American Studies Program at University of California-Davis
- Ø A student completing his first year at University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School, after having completed a 4 year Bachelors degree in 3 years at Dartmouth.
- Ø A freshman completing her first year at Stanford in California- a crew team member
- Ø A Fine Arts music student at Boston University
- Ø An upcoming freshman with a 4 year full-ride to University of Michigan
- Ø An upcoming freshman accepted at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Arizona



Areas of study for all students include, but aren't limited to:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ø Flight school | Ø Fine Arts | Ø Elementary Education |
| Ø Nursing (LPN and RN levels) | Ø Fine Arts Music/Performing Arts | Ø Secondary Education |
| Ø Natural Resources/Biology | Ø Culinary Arts | Ø Political Science |
| Ø Computers/IT | Ø Design and Photography | Ø Economics |
| Ø Business Management | Ø Psychology | Ø Fire Technology |
| Ø Marketing | Ø Criminal Justice | Ø Finance |
| Ø Sociology | Ø Social Work | Ø Public Administration |
| Ø Journalism | Ø Special Education | |

Tribal members attend some of the following colleges within and outside of the state of Michigan. Again- this is not an exhaustive list, and it is no specific order other than alphabetical. Some schools have more than one Tribal Member attending, but all have at least one student:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ø Alaska Pacific University | Ø Kalamazoo Valley Community College | Ø Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College |
| Ø Alpena Community College | Ø Kenai Peninsula College (AK) | Ø St Leo University |
| Ø Baker College of Muskegon | Ø Kent State University | Ø Stanford University |
| Ø Bay Mills Community College | Ø Lansing Community College | Ø University of California-Davis |
| Ø Boston University | Ø Los Angeles Pierce College | Ø University of Michigan |
| Ø Central Michigan University | Ø Michigan State University | Ø University of Phoenix |
| Ø Davenport University | Ø Mid Michigan Community College | Ø University of Texas- El Paso |
| Ø DeVry University | Ø Milwaukee Area Technical College | Ø University of Wisconsin- Green Bay |
| Ø Eastern Illinois University | Ø Muskegon Community College | Ø University of Wisconsin- Madison |
| Ø El Paso Community College | Ø National Louis University | Ø University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee |
| Ø Ferris State University | Ø Northern Michigan University | Ø West Central Technical College (GA) |
| Ø Grand Rapids Community College | Ø Northwestern Michigan College | Ø West Shore Community College |
| Ø Grand Valley State University | Ø Oakland Community College | Ø Western Michigan University |
| Ø John Sargent Reynolds Community College | Ø Purdue University | Ø Williams Baptist College |

Student Highlight - Heather Piwonski



Heather Piwonski is but one of the students pursuing greatness through education. She has singled herself out by achieving Honors status this year.

Heather is pursuing an undergraduate Bachelors degree in Human Development and in Psychology at the University of Greenbay Wisconsin.

Her future plans are to contribute to the wellbeing of others by working with a family violence center, focusing her efforts mainly on helping children.

She expects to pursue a Graduate degree when she is finished with her Bachelors.

Students like Heather are in great numbers throughout the LRBOI Membership. Finding out who they are and supporting them to the best of our ability will encourage them to come here and share their expertise with the Tribe once they are certified, graduated, or have had experience elsewhere.

Sharing knowledge, academic or practical, is the key to successful partnerships that grow strong and prevail against adversity. (ED)

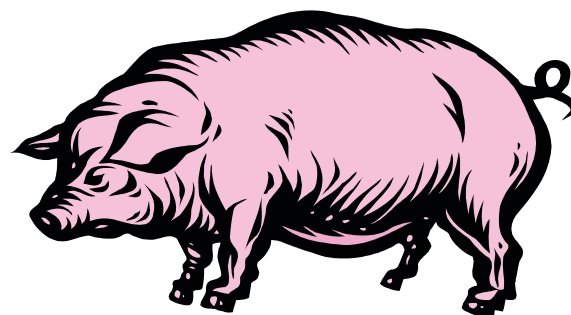
Anishinaabemdaa Animal Names



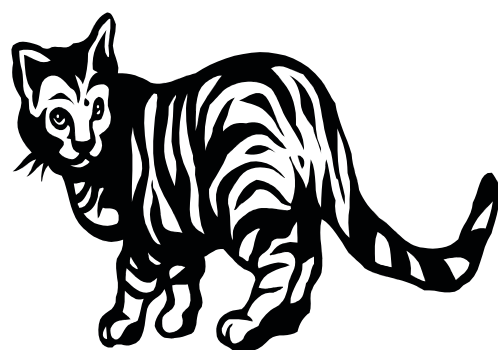
Animosh or Animokaajiinh



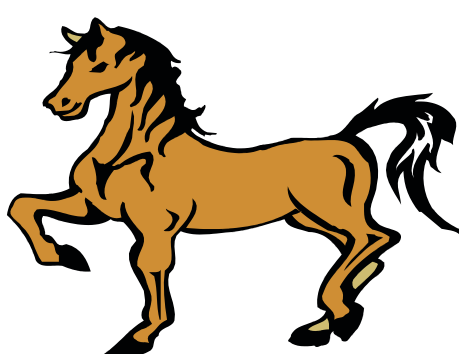
Bezhihi



Gokosh



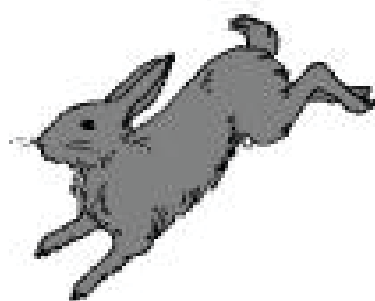
Gaazhigens



Bezhihoogzhi



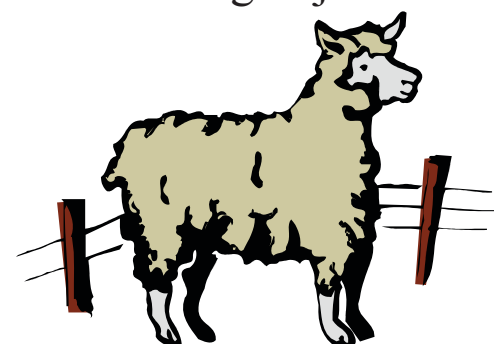
Wabginojiinh



Waaboz

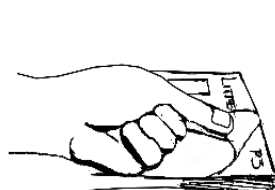


Baakaakwenh

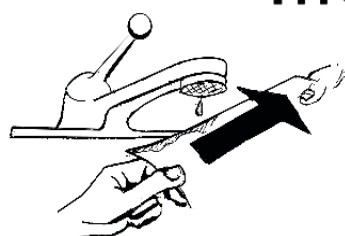


Maashtaanish

Indian dust pan



1. Take 1 sheet of the newspaper



2. wet the edge



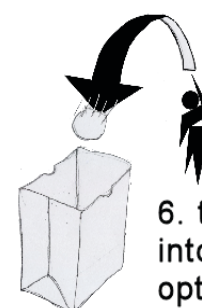
3. place on the floor & sweep refuse past wet edge



4. fold up corners and edges



5. wad into ball



6. toss into optional indian trash can

Tribal Historic Preservation and Language Department
Terri Raczkowski – Administrative Assistant 231-398-2221

SAVE THE DATE!

MANOOMIN NIIKAANISAG - WILD RICE COALITION BUILDING & CONFERENCE

AUGUST 8-11, 2006 • LAC VIEUX DESERT RESORT AND CASINO • WATERSMEET, MI

The main goals of the conference will be to build a regional network of communities and individuals partaking in sustainable ricing cultures. Outcomes include:

- training how to identify, harvest, & process rice
- passing on ricing knowledge to the youth
- networking and refining skills and knowledge
- communicating what is happening on genetic engineering, fair trade labeling, and patenting venues
- Informing agencies, tribes and funding sources to continue funded restoration efforts annually
- Ricing perspective in Anishinaabemowin by fluent speaker
- Education on the cultural and spiritual practices of respect surrounding wild rice replanting, harvesting, & water

Conference workshop topics include: modern rice recipes, rice restoration, ricing in Anishinaabemowin, cultural and spiritual aspects of wild rice, identification and survey training of endangered species of wild rice, viewing of modern ricing operations at LVD.

For more information contact Scott Herron, Assistant Professor of Biology; 820 Campus Drive, ASC 2012; Ferris State University; Big Rapids, MI 49307; 231-591-2087 office; 231-591-2540 fax; herrons@ferris.edu; Or Melissa Holman - Assistant Conference Planner & Research Assistant, missy7342003@yahoo.com

There is a pow-wow scheduled for August 11-13 at the pow-wow grounds near the LVD Resort and Casino, and these beautiful grounds are on the lake where LVD has its beds of wild rice.

For more information on the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Indians visit www.lvdtribal.com. For more information on conference facilities visit www.lvdcasino.com.

- Supported by:
- ☐ Environmental Leadership Program
 - ☐ Ferris State University
 - ☐ University of Wisconsin Extension
 - ☐ White Earth Land Recovery Project
 - ☐ Indigenous Environmental Network
 - ☐ United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resource Conservation Service
 - ☐ Michigan Department of Natural Resources
 - ☐ Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

- ☐ Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
- ☐ Midwest Environmental Advocates, Inc.
- ☐ Northern Michigan University
- ☐ Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- ☐ Mackinac River Watershed Assembly
- ☐ Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- ☐ Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation and Repatriation Alliance
- ☐ Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission

05/09/2004

Economic Development & Small Business Program

Little River Currents April 2006

Nita. Guenthardt

Spring is arriving and so are improvements to our economic programs. The new Director of Commerce will be on board soon and we look forward to moving ahead with the many projects that are on hold.

The Small Business Incentive Task Force has several business grant applications ready for consideration pending Tribal Council determination of land purchase/use guidelines.

The Task Force is continually working to clarify the SBI grant process, striving for a process that will be efficient and fair for everyone.

Task Force member Virgil Johnson has an extensive manufacturing background from years at Dow Chemical and through his consulting business.

Jay Sam shares his experience from the small business sector; Chamber of Commerce; and many other experiences. There is a vacant seat for a financial wiz to balance to team. The new Director will be filling the current seat as Chair of SBIGP. More about the Task force later. You can get a copy of the small business ordinance on-line or by mail. If you decide you are ready to begin establishing your business presence on Tribal Reservation land, submit your application for review.

Some common areas that create difficulty for the new business owner can be relieved by careful consideration of cash flow on your business plan. I will close with some tips to help you track your cash flow.

CASH-FLOW

Time and again, accountants and consultants who specialize in small businesses say that such enterprises don't pay enough attention to cash flow, which is the measure of how much money you really have in the business.

"Small entrepreneurs wind up taking big orders that get them in trouble," says Ronald Lowy, chair of the Department of Business Administration at Eastern Connecticut State University. "They want the big contract, but they're not getting enough money at the front end of it and they don't have the cash reserves to pay workers and pay other bills while they're waiting to get paid themselves. They might show a profit on an accrual basis, but from a cash-flow standpoint, they don't."

"A cash-flow statement tells you that, hey, we know what the pretty numbers on the P&L say but here's the cash that has actually come in and that you can work with."

A statement of cash flow starts with the bottom of your profit and loss statement — the line that shows your net income. Several adjustments are then made to that number, including reducing the income by invoices recorded as income that have not yet been paid, adding back depreciation, adjusting for bills that your business has not paid, and several other adjustments. I'm not going to go into the details of the cash-flow statement — a good accounting

program that does a P&L and a balance sheet will also calculate this statement for you.

1. Bill promptly. Ever find yourself so busy building your business and making deadlines that you don't get around to billing on a regular basis? You're not alone. If you don't already have a system in place, start (or assign an employee to start) billing for projects on a regular basis. When taking on longer-term projects or clients, negotiate in advance for regular payments instead of allowing the amount due to build up until completion of a contract.

2. Create incentives for faster payment to you. Small businesses can sometimes significantly cut the time spent waiting for payment by offering a discount for quick payment. I've received bills from businesses offering discounts of 1% or 2% for payment within 10 days.

3. Avoid slow pay/no pay customers from the start. The best way to avoid cash-flow problems because of customers or businesses not paying you is to weed out those slow pays/no pays out before they become clients. So if someone is about to become a significant client or customer, do your homework. Ask for -- and check out -- credit references. Call other businesses that have had a relationship with the client. You might even pay for a credit check from an organization such as Experian or Dun & Bradstreet.

4. Use barter instead of cash. You could reduce the strain on your immediate cash if you need goods or services from someone and can barter goods or services of your own in return. Note: This is not a way of cutting any tax bills -- you're still required to report the value of the barter transaction on your tax return.

5. Trim your inventory. OK, so you can't go to a "just-in-time" inventory management system like those that many manufacturers have adopted. How about "just-in-less-time"? Money spent on inventory is money that isn't producing any interest or savings for you.

6. Consider consolidating your loans. I know it's often tough for small businesses to borrow money. But I'm surprised at the number of ways entrepreneurs do manage to borrow. One small business owner I know has only one employee, but has four different loans related to his business: an equipment loan, a car loan, a business line of credit and a business credit card. If you also have several loans related to your business, review the rates and terms on each one. You may be able to consolidate two or more loans into a lower-interest account and improve your cash flow. You might look at taking on a longer-term loan in exchange for lower monthly payments.

7. Give gifts, not meals. This is a little thing, but it's definitely worth keeping in mind if you want to tell a client "thank you." Take a client to lunch and you can deduct only half the cost of the meal. Buy a client a gift or gift certificate for up to \$25 and you can write off the entire cost, further cutting your tax bill and improving your overall cash flow. Guess what the tax person advises his clients to do?

Cash flow excerpts from: Joseph Anthony-Joseph Anthony is a tax professional in Portland, Ore., who writes about finance and tax issues

A final reminder when striking out on your own:

1. Know what you want. Review your business dreams and goals. Do you have the experience you need? Are you at the skill level you need?

2. Prepare to take a cut in salary. If you have done your homework, you already know that the owner is paid last. Can you afford to cut your income until the business is running well?

3. Research, Research Research. Magazines, trade journals, site visits. Find out as much as you can about your intended field of dreams.

4. Start your network of resources. Talk to everyone and anyone who knows about your prospective business. Ask them to list the key skills they see necessary to your business.

5. Get in touch with prospective customers/clients. Let them know your plans, make them part of your network.

6. Volunteer or take a temporary position. If you are not quite ready, use the time to gain more skill and knowledge... and cash, to move closer to your dream.

7. Review your business plan. Does it meet the ideals you have for your life? Is it the right career for you and your family? Now is the time to ask those questions.

8. Bring / send your business plan. When you are ready, send your plan to the Economic Development Coordinator to review and submit to the task force for consideration.

As always, feel free to call:
231-398- 6608,

Nita Guenthardt, Economic Development Coordinator, for updates or information. Megwetch!

A list of useful web sites
is displayed on page 33

Muskegon Kateri Circle Easter Party

Saturday April 8th saw a wonderful gathering of the Muskegon area Kateri Circle for the annual Easter Party. The event was held at the St. Thomas parish hall on East Apple in Muskegon. Well over 100 tribal members, friends and relatives gathered for the event which had a grand feast, an Easter Egg hunt and gift baskets for the children. There was also a raffle, many baked goods (including some delicious fry bread) and display of crafts by tribal members from the area.



Ogema Patrick Wilson with Muskegon Elder Joseph Medacco

Ogema Patrick D. Wilson (and his family), Tribal Assistant Manager Lynn Moore and Council member Norbert Kelsey made the trip from Manistee to represent the Tribal Government. The tribes' new HR Director Sharron Detz was also there with her family. Ogema Wilson spoke briefly before the blessing by Elder Joe Kelsey.

One highlight of the gathering was a welcome song by the Thunderbird Singers Drum. Members of the drum are John Jolman, Lou Thayer (and his wife Sandy who is a singer), Ron Stribley, Jamie Boyko, Wayne Stiller and singer Nina-Jay Green.



*One, two, three... Go!
Easter egg hunt is off to a running start!*

Another highlight was the opportunity for one of our Revered Elders, Joseph Medacco to attend and feast with the families. Joe is 87 years old and is a member of our Warrior's Society. Everyone was glad to see him.

While many people were involved with bringing together this wonderful celebration, Currents would like to also acknowledge Tribal Member Joan Fraley who greeted everyone at the door throughout the whole event.



*Left: Lynn Moore (far right) helping in the kitchen
Right: Beautifully prepared Easter baskets*



*Left: Ogema Patrick Wilson with Joe Kelsey
Right: Muskegon drummers getting ready to sing*

11th Annual Sobriety Walk, 2006

Saturday, June 10th, 2006

“Honoring Our Three Sisters Garden”

Sobriety Walk Speakers

Diana Tourongeau



Diana was born in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, to a mother from the Saginaw-Chippewa Tribe and a father who was French Indian Metise. She graduated from Ionia High School and attended Grand Valley State University, where she studied art, dance, and psychology.

Diana was one of the original community members who dreamed of creating a Three Sisters Garden in Grand Rapids. With help from Rene Dillard, Kevin Finney, Mark Sanford, and other participants, the Three Sisters Garden became a reality. Diana was given the honor of being the Seed Keeper for the first four years of its existence.

Diana gave up both alcohol and tobacco 1 year ago. She smoked in secret for many years and then decided to quit because hiding it from her family and friends was becoming too stressful. Currently she is supporting a friend in his sobriety, committed to standing and walking with him on the Red Road. She lives with the freedom of not having that pull to drink and smoke in her life everyday. “My energy level is greater, and I do not have to worry about the bad effects of alcohol and tobacco on my health”.

Frankie Sprague

Frankie is a member of the Gun Lake Tribe, Match-e-benash-she-wish Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan.

He attended Lee High School in Wyoming. Frankie has been sober for 8 years, and during that time has been very active in community leadership roles with Native American youth.

Frankie worked 8 years, on a part time basis, for NACS with the Youth Camp Council. For 2 years he was a Youth Coordinator for the national organization Unity in Grand Rapids. He served as a Peacemaker in the 1st time youth offender Peacemaking Program for Little River Band. Frankie also is an Indian language and cultural consultant at the Huron-Potawatomi Head Start Program. He recently had the honor of being appointed an Ambassador, representing Americans for Indian Opportunity, traveling to New Mexico, Washington D.C., and the United Nations in N.Y.C. However, he is most proud of being Caretaker of the Sobriety Eagle Staff for our community. Simply put: “if it wasn’t for sobriety, I would not be here today.”



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

HOW DOES ‘CSI’ USE FORENSICS

MOUNT PLEASANT —High school students will discover the real world of forensics popularized by television shows like “CSI” at the Applied Technologies in Conservation Genetics Lab Forensic Summer Camp at Central Michigan University.

“The students will learn to extract DNA from tissue samples, create DNA fingerprints, produce DNA sequences, and identify hair using electron and light microscopy,” said CMU Assistant Professor Brad Swanson, director of the ATCG Lab. “It’s a good opportunity to expose them to what a real forensic laboratory is. There will be lots of lab time.”

Three sessions, limited to 20 participants each, are offered from 5 p.m. on Sunday to 7 p.m. Friday on July 9 to 14, July 23 to 28 and July 30 to Aug. 4. There are no academic requirements for admission to the camp. High school students who have completed their freshman year and are entering their sophomore, junior or senior year but have not graduated are eligible to apply. The residential day camp will include classroom activities in the morning, following by lab experiences in the afternoon. Other activities will include a barbecue cookout, critiquing episodes of “CSI,” developing a mock court case, and acting it out in a

mock courtroom situation.

There will be three instructors per session with significant one-on-one interactions. Cindy Maddox, manager of the ATCG laboratory, Philip Oshel, manager of the electron microscopy facility, and a graduate assistant who has not been selected yet are staffing the workshops with Swanson.

The cost for each session is \$650, which includes all housing, meals, supplies and a T-shirt. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required at the time of registration. Students will be housed in residence halls. Males and females will be housed on different floors with a residence hall adviser on staff. Registration forms and information are online at <http://atcg.bio.cmich.edu/summercamp.htm>, or call (989) 774-3377.

The ATCB Lab is a wildlife forensic laboratory used by state and federal agencies, non-government organizations and private individuals, primarily requesting genetic analyses, necropsies, species identification and diet analysis.

**Dr. Swanson will work with Interested Tribal Youth to search for funding.*

CONTACT: Brad Swanson, (989) 774-3377
Cindy Maddox, (989) 774-2328
Philip Oshel, (989) 774-3576



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Government

375 River Street
Manistee, MI 49660
1-888-723-8288

Title: **General Counsel (Executive Branch-Ogema)**

Summary: Responsible for executive, litigation and economic development legal activities of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians government

Qualifications:

- ☐ J.D. Degree from an ABA accredited law school & 7 years exp. with a major law firm or legal department
- ☐ Demonstrative experience of Constitutional Law and Federal Indian Law practices
- ☐ Strong administrative management experience in the legal field
- ☐ Admitted to practice in Michigan or other state bar
- ☐ Willing to obtain Michigan Bar within one year of employment
- ☐ Strong knowledge of litigation, employment law and business law
- ☐ Valid drivers license throughout employment
- ☐ Strong computer skills with experience in word processing, databases, and spreadsheets
- ☐ Excellent project management skills
- ☐ Highly organized and ability to adapt quickly to changing priorities
- ☐ Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- ☐ Excellent interpersonal communication skills
- ☐ Accurate and detail-oriented
- ☐ Excellent problems solving and analytical skills
- ☐ Displays professional leadership qualities and the ability to manage all situations
- ☐ Must be able to manage departmental budget and control labor and expenses
- ☐ Ability to maintain high confidentiality
- ☐ Ability to independently manage multiple tasks in professional manner
- ☐ Ability to maintain a professional demeanor
- ☐ Ability to work well in a team environment
- ☐ Ability to establish and maintain productive working relationships to analyze the legal ramifications of existing and proposed governmental policies, procedures and best practices
- ☐ Ability to negotiate complex, highly sensitive situations

Preferred:

- ❖ Active member in Community/Statewide/Federal professional memberships
- ❖ Experience in Tribal Law

Salary: This is a Level 8 position; Exempt – Salary – Weekly pay

Individuals, who are interested in the above position, please submit a resume and completed application to the Human Resources Department. Questions should be directed to the Human Resources Department.

Posted 3/30/06



Remember the Crampton Boys?
Submitted by Marty Treban

Useful web sites for the Entrepreneurs:

**Start-up and Business Plan
guidelines:**

<http://www.toolkit.cch.com/>
<http://www.entrepreneur.com/partners>
<http://www.mbda.gov/>
<http://sbdcnets.utsa.edu/SBIC/bplans.htm>

Facts about Manistee area:

(Demographic information)

<http://www.manisteecounty.com>
<http://www.census.gov/>

Minority Business Funding:

<http://www.einfonews.com/index.htm>
<http://www.mbda.gov/>

**Business management
Training Tips:**

<http://www.microsoft.com/smallbusiness/resources/management/leadership-training.msp>

Happy Birthday!



Happy 39th Birthday to Deneese Nelsen 4/18
- With love your family and friends.

Happy Birthday Kelly McCabe on April 21st.
- Love Grandma Kran K and the rest of your Antoine relatives.

Happy 24th Birthday to my son James
I love you and miss you.
- Love Mom

Happy 8th Birthday to my brother Blaque
Hope you have a wonderful day.
- Love Sister

Happy Birthday to the Late Ruby Akins
& Thomas Saugie (April 12th)
Daughter of Ruby Akins & niece of Thomas Saugie

Happy Birthday to Aunt Virginia
- From Yvonne and family

Happy Birthday to Danielle
With all my love on your 21st Birthday
- Mom

Happy Birthday Christopher, sorry I won't be able to see you
on your 22nd Birthday...
(Because you're being shipped to... somewhere!)
- Love Mom

Happy Belated Birthday!

Happy Belated Birthday to Geneveve McGinn (March 11th) &
Nicole Wabindato (March 18th)
- From Paula Wheeler aka: Tweet

Happy sweet sixteen Danielle Artman (Little B) (April 1st)
- Love uncle Gerry and Aunt Debbie

Happy Belated Birthday Joslyn C.
Big wishes to you for next year too.
- From Clatus, Nicole and family

Happy 8th Birthday Blaque.
You are a great kid
- Mom and Dad



Congratulations!

Congratulations on your 2nd place at the Paideia Spelling
Competition! Also making the Honor Roll! Way to go!
- Mom, Uncle Butch, Aunt Nicole, Bronsen and Blaque

Congratulations to Violet Holden for making the Honor Roll at
Freesoil Elementary School.
Keep up the good work!
- Love Mom, Dad and Family!

Obituary

Ross Howard Wiegand
(Born December 11th, 1956)
Passed away on April 8th, 2006

**He was a Loving Husband,
Father and Grandfather.**

**His sister, brothers
and family will
greatly miss him.**

- Love, your sister Carol



Thank You...

*For all of the kindness you have shown,
We thank you very much;
For sympathy in sorrowing days,
For friendship's healing touch.
With gratitude, our hearts are full,
Though words cannot convey
The tender thoughts and thankfulness
We hold for you today.*

By the family of John L. Harnish

On a personal note from John's wife Bonnie;

*To all L.R.B.O.I. Tribal Government,
Your kindness in sending the beautiful plant for my husband's
remembrance was appreciated.
It is so nice to know I have so many friends to help me
through my difficult time.*

*God's Blessings,
Bonnie Harnish*

Life As We Know It.

By: Christine Verheek

*Life is such a complicated thing to understand. I am only fourteen
and I know for a fact that I don't know everything about life, or its
meaning. Even though I know I don't understand everything, I do
know that there is a small part of me that does understand.*

*Have you ever looked into a baby's eyes and know that this little
human was created out of love? I know I have, but I also realize
the bigger meaning. This small baby, which is in my arms, was not
only made out of love, but this small human is here to make a dif-
ference in people's lives, and in its own life. This baby could be the
doctor that finds a cure for diseases in this world, be the scientist
that invents an engine that makes airplanes go faster then they do,
or a teacher that makes a difference in some troubled kid. There
are so many things that this small human can do, not only for him-
self or herself, but for everyone around him or her.*

*Life is not that easy. There is peer pressure, and temptation in
things like drugs and drinking. And as you go through life, you see
a lot of this. The decision is yours. You choose the path that you
walk down, but you should know that your parents are there to
help you. You are not alone in this world, because you have people
out there that love you and care about you even if it doesn't seem
like it at times. They're there. You just got to open your eyes and
your heart and let them in. As you go through life, some of your
dreams can be crushed in a matter of seconds Even though that
might happen, don't give up hope on life, because it's not worth it.
There are always more dreams and there are always more things
out there in this world that can make you happy.*

*In your soul you hold your dreams, memories, and a small thing
called a heart. The dreams take you places and hold memories
in themselves once you've reached that dream's place. Some of
the memories that we hold are hurtful, but in the long run the
memories that seem so horrible become the best stories, and the
best laughs. Yes, there are memories out there in each of us that
we wish to hold on to forever; because they make us happy when
we created that memory that we wish to hold on to that happiness
forever. That small thing that we know as our heart holds on to
our dreams, and our memories, but also it holds a thing called
love. When you give love you shall receive love. Sometimes that
doesn't always happen, but you must remember not all people are
the same, and that we all have our own personalities with our own
dreams, and our own memories.*

*Even though we don't know where we are going from one moment
to the next or from one day to the next, we all must remember that
there is always going to be a place here in this world that is just
for each of us. It is this place where, we can be ourselves and not
have to prove anything to anyone but ourselves. We also need to
remember that every moment is a memory and an experience that
will help us down the road somehow, some way.*

Migizi Business Camp Needs Chaperones

We need three adults, at least one of whom is a male, to chaperone for the Migizi Business Camp. This year's camp will be held at the Double JJ Resort in Rothbury, MI. Each chaperone is responsible for no more than 5 students. It is a 6-day camp and will require that you spend six nights. The hours are from 8pm until 8am beginning Thursday, June 22, 2006 at 8pm and ending on Wednesday, June 28 at 8am when the students will be leaving Double JJ.

Chaperones will have access to the cabins throughout the day, and free access to the events and activities at Double JJ Ranch (with the exception of horseback riding and cattle drive which are an additional cost.) Meals are provided and there is a \$400 stipend. You will spend time working with kids 12-18 years old on aspects of their business plans and assisting them in the process of getting ready for their trade show.

Potential chaperones are required to undergo and pass a thorough background investigation, including fingerprinting. Costs for the background investigation are covered by the Education Department. If you are unable to chaperone for this specific program, but you have a general interest in chaperoning at some other activity, please feel free to contact us and we can add you to our list of potential chaperones. Please contact Debra Davis or Yvonne Parsons in the Education Department if you are interested. Thank you!



TOM'S TIMBERS

RUSTIC LOG FURNITURE

By TOM WAHR

2924 VANDENBERG

MUSKEGON, MI 49444

Call 231-739-6494

e-mail t.wahr@comcast.net

Native American Made

Spring is Sprung and the newness now is very refreshing. Watching Mother Nature start the process of Birthing all the new babies and the Plants and all that comes from the new and we from our ways of Praying is birthing us into newness and now is the day to be you Loving the Creator and our people

The Plan to roll up our sleeves and work . We do this for our kids and grandbabies its a very AWESOME process and Its Good to be thought of in such a GOOD WAY

So... My SISTERS and BROTHERS roll your sleeves and we can do God's work on EARTH, TODAY, TOGETHER

Deb

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

12th Annual

Traditional Jiingtamok (Pow Wow)

July 1 & 2, 2006

Little River Band Gathering Grounds

Across from the Little River Casino

(Corner of US-31 and M-22)

Manistee, Michigan

FREE ADMISSION

Handicap Accessible

Grand Entries:

Saturday 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Sunday 1:00 pm

All Head Personnel are to be announced at a later date

***Drum Honorarium to first 5 on-site registered Drums**

Camping Available - Restrooms & Showers On-Site (First Come First Serve Basis)

Not responsible for lost or stolen items or injury

Absolutely No Alcohol, Drugs or Violence Will be Tolerated

Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Cultural Preservation Committee
For more information, please email lrboi@lrboi.com or call 1-888-723-8288

Vendor space is limited to the first 40 registered and paid vendors. (Vendors must be Native American) No factory-produced products allowed except for blankets, audio & video, beads & supplies, books, and clothing.

Drum Contact: Jerry Ramsey 231-398-0885

Vendor Contact: Valerie Chandler 231-398-2222 or toll-free 1-888-723-8288

Princess Contest 2006



**The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
12th Annual Jiingtamok
vendor applications are now available.**

NEW!!

LRBOI Tribal Members will receive a discount on their vending space!

Space is limited to 40 vendors and only 4 food traders will be accepted.

Reserve your space now before it's too late.

For more information or for an application packet:

Call toll-free at

1-888-723-8288, ext. 2222

or (231) 398-2222

Email cpc@lrboi.com



Little River Currents

advocacy
matters



helping
mothers
and their
children

Involved With the
Child Protection System

Prepared By Family Violence Prevention Fund

If you or someone you know
is a victim of violence,
please, call us.

We can help.
It is anonymous.
It is safe.

LRBOI
Domestic Violence
Prevention Program

Toll free (888) 723-8288
Direct (231) 398-6726